FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

15 FEBRUARY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force hit three "large maritime targets" near Khark Island in two raids on 14 February, Iraq announced in official statements carried by INA and Baghdad radio. Iraqi pilots saw the third target catch fire before they returned to base. For Iran's part, a military communique cited by IRNA stated that the Iraqis suffered about 300 casualties during their "futile" attack in the Maymak region early on 12 February, adding that another Iraqi offensive in the same region the following day was likewise repulsed. Meanwhile, an Iranian Foreign Ministry official accused Iraq of "procrastination and delays" in accepting Iraqi POW's released by Iran, contending that Iraq is afraid to receive POW's in case it is forced to reciprocate and release Iranian POW's, Tehran radio reported.

Lebanon

The IDF killed 11 "terrorists" and captured 9 others in a clash near the Al-Awwali River, IDF radio announced. Further south, a Lebanese villager was killed in a "brawl" with IDF soldiers searching the Shi'ite village of Burj Rahhal, according to the radio. The Israelis arrested some 60 residents of the village, ITIM reported, and the UNIFIL spokesman disclosed that a fight erupted between IDF and UNIFIL officers when the latter tried to prevent the Israelis from demolishing buildings, according to Beirut radio.

Israel and the Golan Heights

The entire Cabinet views the Golan Heights as an "inseparable part of Eretz Yisra'el" and this is supported by the Knesset resolution of December 1981, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated in an address reported by ITIM. "Not even a statement by an American official will change this," Shamir added in his response to a U.S. official's call for Israeli-Syrian negotiations over the Golan. Shamir's remarks were echoed by Industry and Commerce Minister Ari'el Sharon, who told settlement leaders from the Golan that the Cabinet should make it clear that the Golan cannot and will not be subject to any type of negotiations with the Syrians, according to Jerusalem radio.

PLO-Jordan

Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat commented on the agreement with the PLO in remarks reported by Amman radio, stating that it stresses the need to solve the Palestine question through an international conference attended by all parties concerned, with the participation of a "joint PLO-Jordanian delegation." However, in a Radio Monte Carlo interview, Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan said the PLO has agreed to participate in a "unified Arab delegation." He also insisted that the agreement does not mention UN Resolution 242, which "we reject."

Iranian Comment on Arab Diplomacy

An IRNA commentary linked Saudi King Fahd's U.S. visit with the Saudi rulers' attempt to perpetuate their "despotic rule" by advocating a compromise with Israel and by relying on U.S. weapons. The commentary also condemned the PLO-Jordanian "so-called peace plan," which includes "many positive points from the viewpoints of Washington and Tel Aviv." As for reports that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, France, Algeria, and Syria have formulated a plan to end the Iran-Iraq war, the agency noted that top Iranian officials have rejected this plan already and have said that Syria's participation in it is "most unlikely."

Iraq-Turkey Pipeline

Iraqi and Turkish officials signed an agreement for the construction of a second Iraqi-Turkish oil pipeline parallel to the first line, INA reported. The new pipeline will be completed "within 18 months" and will allow the volume of Iraqi oil pumped across Turkey to increase by 50 percent.

PDRY

'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, announced his resignation as chairman of the Council of Ministers in a speech broadcast by Aden radio, disclosing that he has given up the premiership in order to concentrate on his responsibilities as head of the party and state. The Supreme People's Council Presidium endorsed the resignation and approved the nomination of Haydar abu Bakr al-'Attas as the new prime minister, the radio noted. Al-'Attas thanked his predecessor in a speech broadcast by the radio, pointing out that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left his post to devote himself to "more important and more profound duties." The prime minister also stressed that his government will pay "special attention" to strengthening the PDRY's defense capabilities on a "modern scientific basis." The new cabinet, listed in a decree carried by the radio, contains several new appointees and portfolios.

Sudan

At a news conference in Aswan following talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri acknowledged that the "sabotage movement" in southern Sudan has stopped the Jonglei canal project and the search for oil in the south; and he disclosed that his government is planning to meet with the rebels to achieve a solution, MENA reported. However, the authorities are still waiting for a response from the "outlaws," he noted. As for the "big campaign" against Sudan launched from Europe and certain Arab states, Numayri said he had assured Mubarak that this is "no more than a tempest in a tea pot," the purpose of which is to undermine the strong relations between Egypt and Sudan.

Maghreb Summit

Leaders of the Five Maghreb countries have agreed to hold a summit meeting at the end of March, according to a source in Tunis cited by AFP.

Afghanistan and Pakistan

The DRA Foreign Ministry handed a note to the FRG charge d'affaires protesting the West German media's "false and poisonous propaganda activities against the DRA," Kabul radio reported.

Meanwhile, "informed sources" in Islamabad expressed regret over the "false information" about Pakistan disseminated by the Soviet media, citing TASS and Moscow radio reports about U.S. military involvement in Pakistan as examples, according to Karachi radio.

This false propaganda campaign coupled with the increasing violations of Pakistan's frontiers will hamper the forthcoming indirect negotiations for a political settlement of the Afghanistan issue, the report added.

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'Arafat Receives Messages From USSR, Nicaragua

From USSR

JN141707 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a message from the Soviet leadership dealing with the USSR's efforts to bolster the Palestinian people's struggle. The message was conveyed by the USSR ambassador in Tunis when he was received by Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar in Tunis.

Our correspondent has learned that Abu 'Ammar gave the ambassador a reply message to the Soviet leadership dealing with the Middle East situation and developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas.

From Nicaragua

PA142142 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0054 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, 13 Feb (EFE) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has sent Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat a message in which he broaches the situation in Latin America, particularly in Nicaragua.

According to the Palestinian news agency WAFA, the message was handed to the president of the PLO by Nicaragua Transportation Minister Mario Terina [title as received] in Tunis.

PLO sources told EFE that details on the Nicaraguan minister's visit to Tunis have not been released but that he is not expected to meet with any Tunisian Government official.

This is the third time in less than a year that a Nicaraguan transportation minister has visited Tunisia to deliver messages from Daniel Ortega to the Palestinian leader.

The first visit by Transportation Minister Carlos Zarruck, took place last June, and the second in September.

Gulf Papers Cite 'Text' of Jordanian-PLO Agreement

Kuwait's AL-ANBA'

GF141432 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 13 Feb 85 pp 1, 26

["Text" of agreement signed by King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat on a joint Jordanian-Palestinian political plan]

[Text] *AL-ANBA'* has obtained the "text" of the agreement betweenKing Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat on a joint Jordanian-Palestinian political plan for the following stage, in an effort to seek a political solution to the Palestinian issue. The following is the complete text of the agreement, although it may not be word for word. The agreement contains an introduction saying:

Realizing the seriousness of this stage, the responsibility they bear toward the homeland and the people of the occupied territories, and the serious circumstances threatening the Palestinian people's fate, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the PLO have agreed to work jointly within the following framework:

1. Land in exchange for peace.

2. They call for an international conference to discuss the issue from all sides providing that all concerned parties participate including the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

3. The two sides base their joint efforts on the resolutions of the Rabat and Fes conferences and all the Arab summit meetings on the issue.

4. The two sides announce that they accept all UN resolutions on the Palestinian issue, the Palestinian people, and the Arab-Israeli conflict, but stress the restoration of all occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem.

5. They insist on the application of all UN resolutions concerning the Palestinian refugees (namely, their right of return or compensation).

6. They insist on the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

7. Work to be done on establishing an independent Palestinian state within the framework of a confederation with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

8. The PLO participates in peace negotiations within a joint Arab delegation.

There was a difference of opinion between King Husayn and the PLO officials on two points of this agreement: the independent Palestinian state and the joint Arab delegation. King Husayn wanted it to read the establishment of a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation without mentioning the expression "an independent Palestinian state." He wanted a Jordanian-PLO agreement on this issue away from international attention, on the premise that the United States will not agree on the move if Jordan insists on the expression of "independent state."

The other point of contention was the expression "joint Arab delegation." King Husayn insisted that the word "Arab" should be omitted, because a move within a joint Arab delegation would necessitate the inclusion of Syria and Lebanon which is unlikely or indeed impossible for Syria, let alone both Syria and Lebanon.

It seems that the differences on these two points were resolved following a message received by Yasir 'Arafat from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia in which he said that he would be unable to request anything from President Reagan in the shadow of Jordanian-Palestinian differences. Accordingly, the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement was announced the day before yesterday (11 February 1985) shortly before King Fahd's discussions began in Washington. These were the last few hours left before the start of discussions because of the time difference with Washington (approximately 8 hours).

AL-ANBA' also learned that Algeria, Egypt, and Iraq have told the PLO and Jordan that they approve their joint move. In this regard, King Husayn's sudden visit to Algeria and the announcement of President Chadli Bendjedid's visit to Washington shortly can be understood.

UAE's AL-BAYAN

GF140834 Doha QNA in Arabic 0720 GMT 14 Feb

[Text] Dubayy, 14 Feb (QNA) — In today's issue the newspaper *AL-BAYAN* publishes what it calls the text of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement to move toward settlement, also naming it the framework of the joint Arab action.

The following is the text of the agreement: "The Jordanian Government and the PLO — both realizing the seriousness of this stage and the responsiblity they bear toward the situation, the people of the occupied territories, and the serious circumstances threatening the fate of the Palestinian people — have agreed to work jointly within the following framework:

"Palestinian land in exchange for peace. The Palestinian people have the right to self-determination. The two sides support the call for an international conference on peace in the Middle East and support the formation of a joint Arab delegation comprising independent regional delegations including an independent Palestinian delegation.

"Jordan agrees that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people who alone have the right to their self-determination and the right to establish a confederation with Jordan, after the establishment of the Palestinian state and not before.

"An insistence on the implementation of UN resolutions pertaining to Palestinian refugees, 'that is the right to return or receive compensation.'

"Both sides declare that they accept all UN resolutions on the Palestinian question, the Palestinian people, and the Arab-Israeli conflict including Resolutions 242 and 338, while stressing the commitment to return all the occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem."

Quoting its correspondent in Amman, the newspaper explained that he was able to see the text of the agreement which has not yet been officially released.

Further Palestinian Reaction to Jordan-PLO Accord

Fatah's Al-Hasan

JN141900 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Interview with Fatah Central Committee member Hani al-Hasan by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent Fu'ad Na'im in Amman; date not given —recorded]

[Text] [Na'im] Brother Hani al-Hasan, in your capacity as Fatah Central Committee member, you took part in drafting the recent Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. There is much speculation about the the contents and clauses of this agreement. What specifically are its aims?

[Al-Hasan] As we said in the official statement, we laid down the bases of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint move. We have so far not presented a Jordanian-Palestinian initiative. We have not presented a framework for the peace process. These joint bases for a Palestinian-Jordanian political move focused on the basic principles on which the two sides agreed. We both support the Palestinian people's right to self-determination within the framework of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation. We both agree that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. We agree to the need for an international conference in which the UN Security Council's permanent member-states participate as a framework for any political move. We agree that the Palestinian refugees should be given the right of repatriation. We agree that the PLO is the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative. We also agree to the principle of land in exchange for peace.

[Na'im] Have you agreed to the PLO's participation in any future negotiations within a unified Arab delegation?

[Al-Hasan] Yes, we adhered to this viewpoint on the unified Arab delegation. My brothers in Jordan indicated that some may obstruct this idea with the aim of dominating the Palestinian or Jordanian decision in the region, but we agreed that we are totally for a joint and unified Arab delegation. If some try to exercise hegemony and domination or make claims, we will then adopt our Jordanian-Palestinian stand that will adhere to dealing with matters and facing the challenge [words indistinct].

[Na'im] Does the PLO's participation in a unified Arab delegation conflict with previous decisions on entering any negotiations with a separate delegation?

[Al-Hasan] This does not conflict with them because a unified Arab delegation does not exclude diversification. A unified Arab delegation means that every delegation is independently represented within the unified delegation and within one framework. This means that we will face issues in unison, not division.

[Na'im] Does the agreement mention UN Security Council Resolution No 242, which Jordan considers a basis for a peaceful solution in the region?

[Al-Hasan] The agreement does not mention Resolution 242, nor is the word "Israel" mentioned.

[Na'im] The PLO then continues to reject all points of Resolution 242?

[Al-Hasan] Frankly and clearly, I say that we reject Resolution 242. We rejected it in the past and will reject it in the future because Resolution 242 for us [words indistinct] the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and establishment of their state. Not a single Palestinian official or institution accepted Resolution 242

because it does not suit, and even clashes with, our Palestinian iterests. Therefore, I say that the greatness of the bases we reached lies in the fact that the Jordanian side understood the Palestinian stand and the Palestinian side helped find the formulas to [words indistinct].

[Na'im] One last question, Brother Hani: Was the declaration of the agreement at a time when King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was in Washington connected with this visit?

[Al-Hasan] Of course, because, as you know, we in Fatah believe that there is no Palestinian military settlement [hasm] but an Arab settlement. There is no Palestinian political settlement, but ultimately an Arab political settlement. Consequently, the Arabs must be made to endure their responsibility, but we must also cooperate logically. Hence, we asked His Majesty King Fahd, whose enthusiasm we know [words indistinct] a Jordanian- Palestinian decision and a Jordanian-Palestinian joint concept. We also expect that if his majesty the king could not drag the Americans to understanding and interaction, we would expect him [words indistinct] after his return. [words indistinct] the responsibility of success, and that is what we wish him, and the responsibility of confrontation if the Americans refuse.

PFLP's Habash, PFLP-GC

JN150829 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash has denounced the official agreement signed between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat, stressing that it constitutes a serious qualitative turning point and decisive deviation from the revolution's national course. He also stressed that it is essentially different from the previous treacherous moves made by the right-wing command, represented by 'Arafat and his clique. Dr Habash also stressed that this deal between 'Arafat and Husayn is a relinquishment of the PLO's incremental program that affirms a commitment to the Palestinian people's right to repatriation, self-determination, and to establish a national independent state on their national soil. This statement was made at a news conference Dr George Habash held in the *AL-HADAF* magazine headquarters yesterday morning and which was attended by press, television, and news agency correspondents in Damascus.

The PFLP-GC denounced the Husayn-'Arafat agreement. The front said that the agreement has placed the PLO under King Husayn's tutelage, canceled its status as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative, and eliminated armed struggle and the Palestinian revolution.

Opposition Groups

JN150807 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Palestinian political figures, cadres, organizations, and resistance factions have rejected and denounced the treasonous Amman agreement between 'Arafat and King Husayn. The Palestine National Alliance command has denounced the treasonous 'Arafat-Husayn agreement and called on all national forces, factions, and figures to close ranks and form a broad national front in order to save the PLO and restore its unity on a national and progressive basis so that the dangers engulfing the Palestinian cause can be confronted. This was contained in a statement by responsible Palestine National Alliance source in Damascus.

Tal'at Ya'qub secretary general of the Palestinian Liberation Front, has condemned the treasonous 'Arafat-Husayn agreement and called on all national factions, forces, and bodies both inside and out of the occupied homeland to topple this agreement. Ya'qub said that the agreement recognizes the principle of Jordanian-PLO participation in the moves to settle the Palestinian cause. This is implicit authorization for the Jordanian regime to speak on behalf of the Palestinian Arab people.

In the West Bank, Bassam al-Shak'ah, mayor of Nabulus; Wahid Hamdallah, former mayor of 'Anabta; Dr 'Abd al-Shafi, head of the Palestine Red Crescent branch; and the editor in chief of *AL-TALI'AH* newspaper have expressed their opposition to the agreement. They said this agreement is not in harmony with the Palestinian people's rights.

The Palestinian National Liberation Movement Revolutionary Council viewed the new 'Arafat-Husayn agreement as one of the many attempts the Jordanian regime has made to divide Palestine between it and the Zionist entity through agent and treasonous Palestinian tools and in line with King Husayn's role as guardian of the Zionist entity. An official Fatah spokesman said that Husayn and 'Arafat are partners in a conspiracy against the Jordanian and Palestinian people, and that this new conspiracy is no more than part of a multifaceted reactionary move seeking to revive th so-called U.S.-Zionist era following the successive defeats the Americans and the Zionists have sustained on Lebanese territory.

New PLO Political Department Official Named

JN141057 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 14 Feb 85 p 20

[Text] Amman — The PLO Executive Committee has decided to appoint Ihsan Abu Hijlah, also known as Abu Ja'far, as director general of the PLO political department in Tunis. Abu Hijlah will replace 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya who was recently appointed a PLO Executive Committee member.

Arab League Official Urges New Media Strategy

GF151052 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 14-15 Feb 85 p 4

[Text] The Arab press failed to present a united front to the rest of the world, particularly the West, and therefore could not sway public opinion in these countries, a senior Arab League official has said.

The league's assistant undersecretary for information, Akhdar Ibrahimi said in a lecture at the OAPEC headquarters that many Arabs were relying on balanced treatment on the Middle East

from the U.S. But he said this would not happen in the foreseeable future, so the Arabs had to confront and defy the U.S.

Ibrahimi said that many foreign powers saw statements made by the Arab League as merely wishful thinking, because of the conflicts within the Arab world. He also said this disunity was seen in the Arab media.

He said the Arab information process could not be effective without joint Arab policies. A new Arab information strategy was needed, through a major information organisation which could work on a long-term basis.

Ibrahimi stressed the success of the Palestinian Studies Organisation, and said that many leading Zionists wished that Israel had a similar organisation.

Explosive Charge Derails Haifa-Tel Aviv Train

JN142007 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1955 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 14 Feb (SANA) — A military spokesman for the general command of Fatah's Al-'Asifah forces has stated that the Martyr Abu al-Qasim group planted an explosive charge on the railway line that links Haifa and Tel Aviv this morning. WAFA quoted the military spokesman as saying that as the trainwas passing the explosive charge went off, immobilizing the train,derailing the cars, and wounding a number of Zionist soldiers on board. WAFA indicated that the Zionist enemy forces spokesman admitted the fedayeen operation but, as usual, claimed that no casualities were sustained.

Israeli Liaison Center in Al-Nabatiyah Attacked

JN141725 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] For the second consecutive day today, Palestinian and Lebanese resistance men used katyusha rockets to shell the Zionist occupation forces' liaison center in Al-Nabatiyah in occupied southern Lebanon. The shelling caused extensive damage to the center and killed or wounded a number of Zionist soldiers.

Resistance men also attacked a military patrol belonging to the so-called army of southern Lebanon militias today on a road in the occupied south. One jeep was destroyed and another damaged and all of the agent elements were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two operations but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces and elements from the agent militias immediately carried out an extensive search and arrested a large number of citizens on the pretext of collaborating with the resistance men, who withdrew safely to base.

BAHRAIN

Arabsat, Underwater Cable To Replace Radio Links

GF151100 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 15 Feb 85 p 2

[Text] Manama — Bahrain Telecommunications Company (BATELCO) will shortly replace its existing ultrahigh frequency FM radio link with the UAE, Qatar and the eastern province of Saudi Arabia with telecommunications through Arabsat and the recently completed Gulf submarine cable. The radio communication was used until now for telephone, teletype and data transmission, according to a BATELCO spokesman. The satellite will also provide television transmission facilities.

Arabsat which connects 22 Arab countries will be used by the Gulf states when they have all built earth stations linked to Arabsat. So far only Saudi Arabia and Bahrain of the six GCC states have the stations. Both Oman and Kuwait it is reported will have theirs later in 1985.

The Gulf submarine cable project, a $42 million joint venture of Bahrain (40 per cent), the UAE (40 per cent) and Qatar (20 per cent) was completed late last year.

Fujistu of Japan were the main contractors for the 1,200-channel submarine cable. However, a significant portion of the work was carried out by two British sub-contractors. Gray Mackenzie's Marine Services laid the shallow water main coaxial cable from a barge marine services installed and constructed to Fujistu's specifications, the spokesman said. The deep sea portion of the main cable was laid by British Telecom ship *Iris*. The installation of the coaxial and power feed cables in Bahrain was by Bucheeri, a local company, while the construction of three manholes for these cables was done by a Bahraini firm, Hamidi Construction.

According to the spokesman, BATELCO does not intend to reduce telephone rates as these compare favourably within the region. More importantly, he said, the company is at present concentrating on providing the latest in communication technology to its subscribers which is why BD10 million of last year's profit is allocated for this purpose.

SAUDI ARABIA

Fahd Emphasizes Importance of Palestinian Issue

LD141407 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Analysis by 'Abdallah Salim Bakhsh]

[Text] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has succeeded in shaking the Palestine question out of its stagnation and has moved it from fourth place to first place on the list of priorities of the U.S. Administration as a result of the intensive meetings he had with U.S. President Ronald Reagan on 11 and 12 February.

Despite Zionist pressure on U.S. Administrations during the past 37 years since the problem arose, the joint statement issued in Riyadh and Washington about the results of King Fahd's meeting with President Reagan and members of his government contained a clear recognition of the positive aspects of the Fes summit conference as a basis for a just and comprehensive peace plan for the Middle East. Thus the statement supports more strongly than ever the Arab peace plan and has activated the peace process in a more positive and serious manner. The joint statement has affirmed that the United States has begun to view more realistically Arab aspirations by asserting that the Palestinian legitimate rights are a basis for any move toward a just peace.

While clearly affirming that King Fahd, may God preserve him, has succeeded in restoring U.S. concentration on the Palestine question and emphasizing its importance, the statement did not overlook the Iraq-Iran war which has been bleeding the lives and resources of the two fraternal countries, particularly as the continuation of this war will have an adverse effect on the entire region.

The statement also did not overlook the question of Lebanon: The two leaders declared in their statement their agreement on the urgent need for Lebanon to regain its sovereignty, independence and territorial security.

It is absolutely certain that agreement to continue the dialogue will be in the interest of the Arab cause, which King Fahd has pledged to be the first to defend. For the king has categorically affirmed his commitment to serving it sincerely and to shoulder its responsibility honorably to further the political course he has adopted since he assumed the crown. The return of Jerusalem to the fold of Islam has become the most precious and important aspiration.

While common interests are what govern the relations among countries and determine their courses, the joint statement has stressed the need to develop these relations for the good of the two countries. It is noted from the spirit of the joint statement that pressure was brought to bear to prevent any attempts at imposing protectionism in the American petrochemical products market in order to combine the Saudi resources and expectations and America's leading technological position.

Daily Comments on Saudi-U.S. Joint Communique

GF150542 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 15 Jan 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline: "The Joint Communique Is a Step Forward for Major Tasks," the newspaper *AL-RIYAD* says in its editorial: The contents of the joint communique not only give new hope for a detente in Arab issues but they also show that the Kingdom does not represent a trend separate from the conflict in the Arab homeland but rather is part of a long chain which represents the entire arab nation.

The paper continues: International circles which give real significance to his majesty's visit have explained his majesty's activities as a new beginning for Arab-U.S. policy and that the Kingdom is qualified to do positive things in carrying out its major tasks.

UAE

Mauritanian Foreign Minister Departs for Doha

GF150452 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, Feb 14 (WAKH) — Mauritanian Foreign and Cooperation Minister Ahmed Ould Minnih left here for Doha today after a 3-day official visit to the UAE as part of a Gulf tour.

While here, the Mauritanian minister delivered a written message to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan from President Maayouia Ould Sid Taya dealing with bilateral cooperation and matters of mutual interest.

He also had talks with senior UAE officials on ways of promoting bilateral cooperation and a number of current Arab issues.

Paper on Fahd U.S. Visit, PLO-Jordan Accord

GF141048 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 14 Feb 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Fahd Visit and Amman Pact"]

[Text] Two important developments have taken place in relation to the Middle East this week. One is the announcement of an agreement between King Husayn of Jordan and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat on joint political action to achieve peace in the region. The second is the Washington visit by King Fahd, who has become the first Arab leader to meet Mr Reagan after the latter's re-election. Earlier this month, 'Arafat had met King Fahd in Riyadh amidst reports that a PLO working paper was to be submitted to the Saudi monarch to take with him on his visit to the U.S. Seeing these two developments together, the question being asked is whether there is any real possibility of new peace moves in the Middle East and whether, perhaps more importantly, the Husayn-'Arafat agreement signifies any major change in the existing situation.

Where King Fahd's visit is concerned, apart from bilateral U.S.-Saudi issues, including defence purchases, it has largely been aimed at testing the waters in Washington and finding out whether Mr Reagan is prepared to exert some pressure on Israel to recognise Palestinian rights. A report in the *LOS ANGELES TIMES* yesterday seemed to rule out the latter possibility. It said that both King Fahd and Mr Reagan stuck by their respective peace plans in the two meetings they had and that the talks therefore should be considered inconclusive. They could not be otherwise because even in his welcoming remarks at the White House, Mr Reagan had reiterated his familiar theme that any peace should be based on Security Council Resolution 242 and on the premise that the Palestinians must find somebody (presumably Jordan) to talk directly to Israel. This has been repeatedly rejected by the Palestinians and all Arabs, and King Fahd could do not more than insist on acceptance of the peace plan that bears his name and which calls for a settlement on the basis of an independent Palestine state living in peace with all other states in the region.

As long as the Americans continue to believe that the only party which needs to be pressured is the Arab nation and that the only concessions that have to come are from the Arab side, then there can be no fresh peace effort and no new role for the U.S. in this region. It is not acceptable that the Zionists should continue to bask in the sunshine of American patronage while Palestinian rights are consistently ignored. There can be no progress even on a limited basis unless the Americans are prepared to accept the PLO as a sovereign entity and to consider it an equal party in any negotiations concerning Middle East peace.

As to the Husayn-'Arafat agreement, few details have been announced so far except that one of the points in the pact relates to the convening of an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations. On this, an Arab consensus already exists, and again it is the U.S.-Israel and the Zionist entity's other Western patrons who oppose the proposal. There has been some mention of Resolution 242 in the context of the Amman pact also and of the "land for peace" proposal. It is difficult to see how the Palestinians and 'Arafat can endorse either of the two suggestions because the PLO had rejected both as recently as at the PNC session only a couple of months ago. In fact, it has been clearly stated on behalf of the PLO that agreeing to recognise Israel without Zionist readiness to accept an independent Palestinian state would be capitulation, not compromise, and that the formula should be not simply "land for peace" but "Palestinian land and rights for peace". Coordination between Jordan and the PLO is unexceptionable and indeed natural, but any joint formula must necessarily be based on principles laid down by the PLO and the PNC and should have full Arab backing.

It is true that the lack of an Arab consensus makes the PLO's position difficult, but the situation is not so desperate as to make the organisation clutch at straws. King Husayn, while addressing the PNC session in November, had underlined the need for PLO and Arab support for any new peace moves, and we are confident that this remains his position.

It is our own general indecisiveness that is letting all kinds of half-baked ideas gain ground and it is therefore imperative that an Arab summit should be convened immediately where all issues should be openly and frankly discussed.

PDRY

Nasir Muhammad Resigns As Prime Minister

GF141830 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Speech by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, at the conclusion of the 19th session of the Supreme People's Council Presidium on 14 February — recorded]

[Excerpts] Brother and sister members of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, I was honored by the immense confidence which you bestowed on me by electing me chairman of the Council of Ministers during the past years in which I shouldered

the responsibility of being the head of the government since 4 August 1971. I hope that I have succeeded in fulfilling the responsibilities given to me by the party and by the representatives of the people.

Undoubtedly, there have been clear developments in the organs of the state and the executive authority during the past years. This has helped, in a special and a comprehensive way, to reinforce and develop the methods and operations of the organs of the authority and its institutions. This was realized by our success during the past years in constructing the legal structure of the Council of Ministers, organizing the ministries and the institutions affiliated with the Council of Ministers, in addition to preparing the regulations that organize their work and interrelations. This also included the preparation of the economic and technical cadres in addition to the administrative specialized cadres.

These developments have helped us to increase the efficiency of the authority organs and their institutions with regard to running the national economy, renewal of the development plans, improvement of work conditions and wages, and construction of the basic structures of the society in all the fields of industry, agriculture, transportation, electricity, water, eudcation, health, housing, and education, in addition to building and reinforcing the defensive and the security capabilities of the country together with ensuring the comprehensive situation and bolstering security.

We also have made huge successes during the past years in setting, reinforcing and developing the bases of peaceful relations betwen the two Yemens on the bases of the unity agreements that were signed between the governments of the two parts of Yemen. Many of the required unionist steps were nailed down in addition to the bases of political coordination, economic integration, trade exchanges, and the transfer of the people between the two parts.

On the international level, friendship and cooperation ties have been strengthened and broadened with the governments of friendly states on various continents, foremost of which are the governments of the socialist countries headed by the friendly Soviet Union. Our strategic relations with the Soviet Union and the rest of the socialist states have undergone comprehensive and great developments in the various political, economic, cultural, scientific, and technical fields. Other types of cooperation also have contributed toward developing our economic, defense, and security capabilities.

These relations have had an effect on bolstering the existing cooperation in exchanging experiences and preparing and training national cadres. They have also have had an effect on coordinating joint stands toward political developments on the international arena and defending our national and proletarian issues within international circles.

I will repeat that it is our duty to maintain and develop all our successes and achievements we have attained with regard to building the national democratic authority and deepening its popular and democratic concept. For this reason and because of the numerous economic, social, and political developments our country is witnessing; the successes in the fields of development plans; the increase in the size of investments; the expansion of the state organs and institutions; the growing attention paid to mobilizing all energies and capabiltities, defining specializations, and consolidating efforts toward preparations and readiness for the third 5-year plan for economic and social development; and the assessment of the results of the second 5-year plan we found it necessary to ask one of the brothers to take up the post of prime minister.

This step has been taken so that I will be free to shoulder the responsibilities concerning the leadership of the party and the state. Therefore, in accordance with Article 108 of the Constitution, please accept my resignation as chairman of the Council of Ministers with my extreme appreciation for and pride in all the efforts made by the brothers of the Council of Ministers during the period of my chairmanship.

I thank you brothers and sisters, members of the Supreme People's Council, for your support for us. The new government needs your full support in order to continue carrying out noble national responsibilities. I ask you again to accept my resignation from government leadership, with my gratitude and esteem for you all.

Supreme Council Selects New Prime Minister

GF141416 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Anis Hasan Yahya, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the YSP Central Committee, and member of the Supreme People's Council, delivered a speech in which he expressed — on behalf of the members of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council — appreciation and gratitude to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. He said: Had it not been for the huge responsibilities which await Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, and require him to devote himself to the leadership of the party and the state, then the acceptance of his resignation — by the members of the council — from the post of prime minister would have been a difficult matter.

Brother Anis Hasan Yahya lauded the great role played by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad in the leadership of the government during the past 14 years with ability and competence. Brother Anis Hasan Yahya proposed that the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council approve the resignation of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad to be free to devote himself to the other leadership duties. The council approved this.

The Supreme People's Council also approved the creation of a ministry for energy and minerals, changed the name of the Committee for State Security to the Ministry of State Security, and changed the name of the State Committee for Information to the Ministry of Information.

Following that, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad nominated Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas to the premiership. He said:

[Begin Muhammad recording] Sisters and brothers, members of the Supreme People's Council, it pleases me to propose to the

Supreme People's Council Presidium Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas as chairman of the Council of Ministers. Comrade Haydar is well-known for being one of the old strugglers who emerged in the field of political and governmental activity. He bore continuously and for 19 years after independence his ministerial responsibilities in the sector of construction and building. The accomplishments and great achievements in this sector bear his personal touch. He has continued to be a living example by working silently, efficiently, and actively. He deployed all his energies and interests for the sake of accomplishing the task whose responsibilities were borne by him with honor and ability in light of the party's policy and cabinet resolutions.

I am very confident that Comrade Haydar al-'Attas will continue his performance in his new job as he has done in the past. He will be provided with the full support of the party and state in order to enable him achieve the big tasks whose responsibility will be borne by him in leading the cabinet with the brother ministers. Brothers, deputies of the people, I submit to you the proposal of the Supreme People's Council Presidium to nominate Brother Haydar al-'Attas as chairman of the Council of Ministers, hoping that it will be approved. [end recording]

The members of the Supreme People's Council Presidium unanimously approved the nomination of Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas as prime minister.

New Cabinet Formed; New Ministry Created

GF141922 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has issued a decree from the Supreme People's Council on the selection of members of the Council of Ministers.

The first article of the decree called for the selection of the chairman and the members of the Council of Ministers to include the following:

Chairman of the Council of Ministers:
Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas

Deputy Prime Minister:
'Ali 'Abd al-Razzaq Ba Dhib

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Fisheries:
Dr Yasin Sa'id Nu'man

Minister of Defense:
Brigadier General Salih Muslih Qasim

Foreign Minister:
Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali

Minister of Labor and Civil Service:
Nasr Nasir 'Ali

Minister of Local Government:
'Ali Salim al-Dhib

Minister of Finance:
Mahmud Sa'id Madhi

Minister of Culture and Tourism:
Rashid Muhammad Thabit

Minister of Education:
Dr Hasan Ahmad al-Sallami

Minister of Industry:
'Abdallah Muhammad 'Aziz

Minister of Health:
Dr 'Abdallah Ahmad Bukayr

Chairman of the Higher Committee for Party People's Control:
Mahdi 'Abdallah Sa'id

Minister of the Interior:
Colonel Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Batani

Minister of State Security:
Ahmad Musa'id Husayn

Minister of Transport:
Salih Abu Bakr ibn Husaynun

Minister of Installations:
Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah

Minister of State for Council of Ministers' Affairs:
'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim

Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform:
Muhammad Sulayman Nasir

Minister of Energy and Minerals:
'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal

Minister of Justice and Awqaf:
Khalid Fadl Mansur

Minister of Trade and Supply:
Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli

Minister of Planning:
Dr Faraj ibn Ghanim

Minister of State for Sports Affairs:
Ahmad Muhammad Qa'tabi

Minister of State for Union Affairs:
Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh

Minister of Housing:
Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah

Minister of Information:
Muhammad 'Abd al-Qawi

The second article of the decree states any previous formation of the Council of Ministers that contravenes this decree will be cancelled. Moreover, the other article states that this decree will go into effect from the time of issue. It will be published in the official paper.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad also issued a decree of the Supreme People's Council on the creation of a ministry for energy and minerals. The first article of the decree deals with the creation of a ministry for the affairs of energy and minerals called the Ministry of Energy and Minerals. It is now a member in the Council of Ministers. It comprises the petroleum and the minerals authority and the general authority for electricity.

The second article of the decree states that the Council of Ministers will issue regulations that define the duties, authority and responsibilities of the Energy and Minerals Ministry.

The third and fourth articles state that this decree will go into effect as of its issue and publication in the official paper.

Mauritanian Official Concludes Visit, Departs

GF150546 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Aden, 14 Feb (WAKH) — Mauritanian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohamed 'Abd al-Qadir Ould Sidi left Aden today after a short visit to South Yemen. During the visit he delivered a message from Mauritanian President Maayouia Ould Ahmed Sid Taya to the South Yemeni President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad dealing with developments in Al-Maghreb Al-Arabi.

YAR

Premier Greets Newly-Appointed PDRY Counterpart

GF141940 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Feb 85

["Text" of congratulatory cable sent by 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, to Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau, on his appointment as chairman of the Council of Ministers in the PDRY]

[Text] It is my pleasure to send to you the warmest congratulations and sincerest wishes on the occasion of your appointment as the chairman of the Council of Ministers. I pray that Almighty God will make you successful in carrying out your great responsibilities which you have chosen to bear in order to achieve the goals of our people in the southern part of the homeland. We are confident that our joint efforts will continue to achieve Yemeni unity which is the most august goal of our people. Please accept my deep esteem.

[Signed] 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, YAR prime minister and member of the Standing Committee.

Mubarak Meets With Sudan's Numayri in Aswan

Mubarak Arrives

NC141013 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Aswan, 14 Feb (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak arrived at Aswan airport at 1030 today. He is accompanied by Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif; Dr Yusuf Wali, minister of agriculture and food security; Irrigation Minister 'Isam Radi; 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and administrative development; and Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for foreign affairs.

President Mubarak was received at Aswan airport by Aswan Governor Major General Qadri 'Uthman Badr, members of the People's Assembly and the Consulative Council, as well as by political and executive leaders in the governorate, and senior Armed Forces' officers of the southern military area.

Talks Begin

NC141120 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Aswan, 14 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri at the Aswan Dam Rest House in Aswan this morning to discuss the Middle East situation and the progress that has been achieved within the framework of the Jordanian-PLO accord. They were also to discuss problems of the Horn of Africa, the OAU, and integration between Egypt and Sudan.

Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid; Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif; Dr Yusuf Wali, minister of agriculture and food security; Irrigation Minister 'Isam Radi; 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and administrative development; and Dr Usamah al-Baz, foreign ministry first under secretary and Director of the President's Office for foreign affairs are attending the meeting on the Egyptian side.

Sudanese Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman and President Numayri's press secretary, Muhammad Mahjub Sulayman are attending the meeting on the Sudanese side.

The discussions included a working luncheon.

Hold News Conference

NC141659 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1505 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Aswan, 14 Feb (MENA) — Presidents Muhammad Husni Mubarak and Ja'far Numayri held a news conference after completing a 2-hour discussion at Aswan airport lounge today.

President Mubarak opened the news conference with a statement welcoming President Numayri. He said: The fact is that we have become accustomed to meeting with our brother President Ja'far Numayri, the leader of fraternal Sudan, and exchanging views and information with him on bilateral relations, external relations, and issues in the area. We held an approximately 2-hour discussion today during which we exchanged views on bilateral relations and issues surrounding us in general, such as the Middle East question and other issues and problems. We became acquainted with certain information regarding what is being said about us abroad, at home, and in other places.

President Mubarak added: I always welcome such meetings because they confirm the strong relations between our two people and, more importantly, they are a greeting to my brother President Ja'far Numayri and the fraternal Sudanese people.

In response, President Numayri said: I thank President Husni Mubarak for enabling us to meet again in Aswan after a period that I believe was too long. It was only a matter of several months, but this meeting is an extension of those held between our respective delegations in Cairo and Khartoum. The last was a meeting devoted to holding a seminar on local popular rule.

President Numayri added: There have been indirect contacts, but this meeting is important because of what President Mubarak said to the effect that we have resumed our meetings, exchanged information, and held consultations on happenings in our area — Arab issues, African issues, and world issues. I wish to declare that our views are identical and we still plan to achieve integration between Egypt and Sudan, realize Arab solidarity, win support for Arab issues against their enemies, and remove all blemishes from Arab positions in the world.

I would like to say something very important. A big campaign has been launched against Sudan. We do not know its reasons. Very regrettably this campaign has begun in Europe and in some Arab states which have inadvertently gone along with the campaign to attack Sudan. President Husni Mubarak was concerned about us. He wanted to know what is actually happening in Sudan. Despite the fact that he knows everything, I assured him personally that the campaign is no more than a tempest in a tea cup, the purpose of which is to weaken the strong relations between Egypt and Sudan.

Asked his opinion on the agreement reached between Jordan and the PLO, President Husni Mubarak said: I noted earlier that the coordination that occurred between His Majesty King Husayn and Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, is a step in the right direction. I have often said in the past that this coordination would help us all to push the solution forward. Without such an agreement, it would have been difficult for us to ask others to help in achieving a solution. I have also often said that we seek a solution to the issue and, therefore, we must agree among ourselves and unite our stand. We must agree on principal points and not disagree. If we disagree, the peace process will have no momentum.

I believe that the coordination that has taken place is essential and necessary. I also believe that it offers hope for the future. God willing, we shall try to perpetuate this resolve to push the peace process forward during my forthcoming visit to the United States as well as the EEC countries.

Commenting on the same question, President Numayri said: I would like to say that Sudan continues to uphold its declared policy. Sudan is a country of peace and love. It advocates and works for both at home and abroad. The coordination that has taken place between King Husayn and the PLO has received our full approval. As President Mubarak has just said, this will contribute to moves to achieve a solution of the issue in the just, peaceful, and reassuring manner desired by every Arab.

Replying to a question on how he assesses his former call to the outlaws to lay down their arms and start a national dialogue, President Numayri said: The appeal I made at home to the outlaws who have taken up arms supported by some states that seek to destroy Sudan still stands. We are still waiting for a response from them. We are now planning a move to meet with many of them both at home and abroad in order to achieve a solution that will satisfy the country.

Asked about the size of the rebel movement, President Numayri said: It is a sabotage movement. A sabotage movement is always big because one person can do a lot of damage. I cannot evaluate the sabotage movement as big or small but it has adversely affected the development process in Sudan. It has, for example, stopped the Jonglei Canal project. It has stopped our search for oil in the south.

Although we have been able to calm the situation in several areas, sabotage and the intention to sabotage still exist. As I said, let us face this by calling for peace and by not fighting each other. We want to build Sudan, but there cannot be construction and sabotage at the same time.

We are trying to dissuade some Sudanese saboteurs who are being helped by Libya and Ethiopia. Libya supplies funds and weapons, and Ethiopia helps them with training and planning for action inside Sudan.

Asked whether he will raise the question of the restoration of relations between Egypt and the Arab states if an Arab summit conference is convened, President Numayri said: Ninety-nine percent of the Arab states are now dealing with Egypt either politically, economically, or socially. In my answer to a previous question, I said that there are some subversive states that impede a return to the legal channel for dealing with Egypt in the Arab establishments and organizations.

The latest comment is that Egypt cannot return [to the Arab fold] except through a unanimous decision by an Arab summit conference.

I am sure that after the Arab states meet at a summit conference and after unanimity is achieved, there will be another reason such as, for example, that we do not need Egypt because it is a big state and more advanced than necessary compared with the Arab countries. Such a thing has been said before. The reasons given by Syria and Libya against Egypt's return to the Arab fold are ridiculous.

The truth is that Egypt is the heart of the Arab world. I can confidently say that Egypt is the only state acting to resolve the Palestinian problem. It acts with wisdom and reason and contacts the enemy, sometimes through dialogue and other times through political and diplomatic contacts. We read all the Arab newspapers that comment on Egypt's contacts with the Palestinians and Jordan.

Numayri Leaves for Home

NC141749 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Aswan, 14 Feb (MENA) — Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has left Aswan for Khartoum after completing talks with President Husni Mubarak on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest. President Muhammad Husni Mubarak was in the forefront of those who saw President Numayri off.

Mubarak Cables DPRK's Kim Chong-Il on Birthday

NC151106 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1057 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 15 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent the following cable to Kim Chong-il, secretary of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers Party in the DPRK and member of the Military Committee, on the occasion of his birthday:

It pleases me to send your excellency my sincerest heartfelt wishes for a happy birthday. I wish you the best of health and happiness and more progress and advancement to your friendly people. With my best respects and esteem.

'Abd Al-Majid Reports to Mubarak on Recent Tour

NC141027 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Aswan, 14 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak this morning received a report from Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid on the outcome of his recent visits to Britain, France, and the United States. Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that his trip was successful and that during the trip preparations were made for President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's forthcoming visit to the United States, which has been fixed for the first week in March. His excellency said that he asked the U.S. Administration to increase U.S. military aid to Egypt in parallel with Israel. On the recent Jordanian-Palestinian accord, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that it is a very important step on the road to a solution.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid arrived in Cairo from Paris yesterday at the end of a 12-day tour during which he visited Britain, the United States, and France.

Prime Minister 'Ali Receives Foreign Dignitaries

Jordan's Al-Fayiz

NC141502 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1405 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 14 Feb (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, and his accompanying delegation.

Following the meeting, 'Ali said that they had reviewed the Arab and Palestinian situations in light of the recent Jordanian-PLO agreement to press ahead for a settlement in the area. The prime minister added that they particularly discussed the upcoming meeting between President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan as well as the visit that President Mubarak will pay to the United States in March in a bid to accelerate peace efforts in the area.

Al-Fayiz arrived in Cairo 2 days ago on a visit to last a few days.

UK's Bramall

NC141818 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 14 Feb (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today received Field Marshal Edwin Bramall, the UK chief of staff, who is currently visiting here. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations, recent developments in the Middle East, and strategic aspects of the Iraq-Iran war.

Bramall expressed satisfaction with his talks in Egypt, referring to them as constructive and extremely useful. The talks, he said, were held against a background of mutual respect and understanding characteristic of Egyptian-UK relations.

In an exclusive statement to MENA, the UK chief of staff said that current conditions in the Middle East are encouraging, thanks to the recent Jordanian-PLO agreement, Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, and the peace accords between Egypt and Israel. All these, he added, are steps in the right direction. The UK chief of staff said that the Iran-Iraq war has developed into a curious phenomenon that creates a lot of question. He commented on the U.S.-USSR arms talks in Geneva, saying: We welcome this development for the sake of creating a new international atmosphere. Commenting also on the disarmament conference recently held in Cairo under UN aegis, Bramall said: Disarmament can be a great thing if accepted by all and if there is peace. However, if some lay down their arms and others do not, it can be dangerous.

Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall is due to leave Cairo tomorrow for Pakistan. It is noteworthy that he was born and raised in Bani Suwayf where his father worked as an irrigation engineer.

Al-Baz Analyzes Jordanian-PLO Agreement

NC141255 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1150 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Aswan, 14 Feb (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for foreign affairs, said that President Husni Mubarak greatly welcomes the agreement reached between Jordan and the PLO because it accomplishes the first step required of the Arab side to generate the necessary thrust for the resumption of the peace process. Dr al-Baz pointed out that it is incorrect to view the agreement as representing concessions made by one party , because the talks were conducted between two members of the same party and the result of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is a pan-Arab result and not just Jordanian or Palestinian.

Dr al-Baz said what is important in this agreement is that the will of the two sides regarding movement toward peace has become clear. On the other hand, the legal basis laid by the two sides for joint movement could be acceptable on the Arab level because it combines the Fes and UN resolutions.

Dr al-Baz affirmed that it is inadmissible for any Arab or non-Arab party to attack this agreement or denounce the Palestinian position, because such an attack would contravene the Rabat summit resolutions. As long as the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, it follows that the PLO should determine the Palestinian position, because representation is not confined to attending conferences and meetings. The most important bases and results of representation are the expression and formulation of specific positions.

Al-Baz said that since the Palestinian people have adopted a position on a major issue, there must be general Arab recognition of such a decision. If there are different views by certain Palestinian factions, this does not infringe upon the decision or the PLO's authority to enter this agreement, because the minority's view cannot be imposed on the majority. The PLO cannot be asked to express Palestinian unanimity, because this cannot be asked of any country. Why should such a thing be asked of the Palestinian resistance?

In a statement to newsmen at Aswan airport, Dr al-Baz emphasized that agreement on a future (?relationship) between Jordan and the Palestinian country that would be created after the Palestinian people exercise their right to self-determination is a matter for Jordan and the Palestinians alone and no Arab country or side will be allowed to attempt to veto the will of the Palestinian and Jordanian people.

Dr al-Baz asked: Why should the Jordanians and the Palestinians be treated differently from Libya and Morocco or from any other Arab countries that want to establish any specific form of union between them?

Dr al-Baz added: Regarding any future moves, the two sides prefer that an international conference be convened in which all the international and local parties concerned will participate, including the PLO. Regarding the formation of a delegation, a flexible formula has been reached that will guarantee the broadest Arab participation. This should not prevent the Arab sides from discussing other forms of coordination and participation.

Al-Baz affirmed that according to the agreement, the Arabs as a whole will have taken the step that they had asked be taken on the international level and the responsibilities will now go to the following: 1) The United States because it committed itself to an active role until a comprehensive solution is reached, and also because it has special relations with Israel and large interests with the Arab states. This places a special responsibility on the United States for reaching a comprehensive peace. 2) On the other hand, Israel will have to match this new Arab stance with a positive spirit free from the negative slogans that it is always advocating in order to cast doubt on Arab intentions.

Dr Al-Baz said that media remarks on the Israeli officials' reaction have so far been negative and based on distortions about the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. These remarks also reflect the fear of extremist quarters in Israel that this Arab step will earn international support that can put Israel on the defensive.

In other words, the required Israeli reaction to this important event and development should be political and not propagandist. This reaction should be preceded by a meticulous study and careful assessment of the situation. It should not be issued like the reaction that has appeared so far before learning the content and substance of the Jordanian-Palestinian step.

Dr Al-Baz affirmed the need for the European Community to act, especially since there will be important meetings in the future including a summit conference to be held on 30-31 March under the chairmanship of Italy. This Arab step [Jordanian-Palestinian agreement] has been the necessary link for putting the Venice and Dublin declarations into effect.

Dr al-Baz said that the Soviet Union, as a superpower with a specific position on this issue, can also play an important role; this is especially true since the basic points of this agreement do not conflict with the main points to which the Soviet Union has adhered in the several initiatives it has submitted for resolving the Middle East problem. The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement also does not conflict with the contents of the U.S.-Soviet declaration issued on 1 October 1977.

Concerning mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel, Dr al-Baz said that the session of negotiations implies mutual recognition. It is not right to ask the PLO to recognize Israel in advance. When the PLO recognizes Israel, the latter must recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

MAYU Discusses Mubarak's Forthcoming U.S. Visit

PM131555 Cairo MAYU in Arabic 11 Feb 85 p 2

[Lutfi 'Abd al-Qadir "Egypt in the Eyes of Others" column: "Good Preparation for Mubarak-Reagan Meeting"]

[Excerpts] As the date of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's visit to Washington draws closer Israeli allegations and lies about Egypt, the Arabs, and the Palestinians are increasing, both in statements by Israeli leaders and during their meetings with foreign leaders inside or out of Israel. An example is Prime Minister Shim'on Peres' recent statement that his government has taken several individual initiatives to give impetus to a peace settlement and to improve relations with Egypt but the Egyptian Government has shown no response to such initiatives. Another example is the file Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin took with him on his U.S. visit, which embarrassed him when its contents became known. Among the allegations in the file was the claim that Israeli statistics show the military balance of power between the Arabs and Israel as threatened and that theArabs have become superior to the Jewish state in terms of long-range attack aircraft and in some surface-to-surface missiles with a range over 120 km. It was also alleged that increasing U.S. aid to Egypt will have a negative effect on Israel. On the basis of these allegations and misrepresentations, the U.S. Administration is asked to provide the Israeli army with advanced types of U.S. weapons, to help develop the Israeli military industry, and to increase U.S. purchases of Israeli military products.

So, it was incumbent on Egypt to make the truth clear through the preparations for President Mubarak's forthcoming U.S. visit. Hence the decision to send Planning Minister Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense and War Production Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah to Washington immediately to hold preliminary economic, political, and military talks prior to President Mubarak's visit. These talks would be within the framework of the distinguished relations between the two countries, particularly with regard to the need for the United States to take its share of responsibility for the establishment of peace in the Middle East

An immediate response to the Israeli allegations was contained in President Mubarak's statement on the arrival of FRG President Von Weizsaecker on a visit to Cairo and following talks with him. President Mubarak stressed that Israel's efforts to establish peace are unsatisfactory and lack flexibility. He called on Israel to show more flexibility in problems concerning peace. He also stressed that Israel must withdraw completely from Lebanon and leave the Lebanese to solve their own problems. He said that Egypt is making great efforts in the coordination of ties between Jordan and the PLO in order to create a climate conducive to negotiations for a comprehensive settlement. He welcomed the role that Saudi King Fahd is playing in the Palestinian problem and greeted any Arab country wishing to cooperate with Egypt on this matter.

So, Israel's lies and allegations will not be able to obliterate the truth that is evident to everybody, including the fact that, as Egypt has always said, real peace cannot be established while expansionist ambitions, occupation, settlement, and the denial of the Palestinian people's rights persist. Peace cannot be deep-rooted unless it is based on freedom, justice, and commitment to the rule of law, the principles of legitimacy, and equal rights and obligations. The current dialogue between Jordan and the PLO is an important step toward the achievement of peace.

Briefs

French Ambassador Departs — Cairo, 15 Feb (MENA) — Former French Ambassador in Cairo Philippe Cuvillier left Cairo today at the end of his tour of duty in the Arab Republic of Egypt and in view of his appointment as his country's ambassador in Rabat. New French Ambassador to Egypt Pierre Hunt is expected in Cairo at the end of February to assume his duties. [Text] [*Cairo MENA in Arabic 1135 GMT 15 Feb 85 NC*]

President Views Iranian Conflict at Party Ceremony

JN141517 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Speech by President Saddam Husayn on the occasion of honoring Ba'th party veterans for 25 years of service; date, place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Many are under the illusion that the regime in Tehran — certainly as you know and we have mentioned repeatedly — can take over Iraq using the same method as that used to topple the shah. This backwardness implies that the Iranian ruling regime dreams that the method they adopted in overthrowing the shah of Iran — who was their shah, not ours; Persian not Arab; and Iranian not Iraqi.[sentence as heard] They were late in overthrowing him, while the Iraqis were first to reject the situation that does not suit them.[sentence as heard] The backward ones believed that since they could overthrow the shah of Iran they could take over Iraq. What is the association between Iraq and the overthrow of the shah of Iran? This is ignorance in life. It is the ignorance of knowledge of life. This is ignorance of the national quality of the people, and in the rules of development present in every age and every stage of life. So instead of taking over Iraq, they find themselves besieged by the Iranian peoples within Iran.

If the people [shuub] of Iran were, at any rate, to mislead some of them for some time, and if they were able — as they once did — to polarize all the peoples of Iran in order to make them rise against a corrupt regime, such as the regime of the shah of Iran, it is then natural that they will not be able to proceed in adopting outdated views in Iran itself. Such views cannot serve as examples that can be followed in Iraq, the Gulf countries, the Arabian Peninsula, the Arab homeland, or in the Islamic countries. They cannot follow the example of their predecessors who used to leave Iran and invade Iraq, the Arab homeland, or other regions. The period of invasion has gone. We are living in an era in which very small countries comprised of thousands of people form a state. The people respect it. It has a flag, an army, laws, international relations, etc.

What about Iraq? Here lies the power of Iraq, brothers, inthe basic points that I have mentioned. On the opposite side lies the general strategic weakness of our enemy. We could be fair even toward our enemy. Would the Iranians fight if the conditions were right for fighting? The answer is yes. The Iranians would fight if the conditions were right and fighting was the only solution. However, has the Iranian leadership provided its people with the prerequisites for war? Has the leadership provided its people with the legitimate background for fighting? The answer is no. Therefore, the failure that befalls the people and Army of Iran today cannot be blamed on the people of Iran or its Army.

The prime responsibility falls on the Supreme Command in Iran, because it is a leadership failing in all its basic duties. Why? We are living in this age, not 200 or 500 years ago. The first conditions needed for the Army to fight is to move along a legitimate background in the direction of militarily predetermined goals. In other words, when it asks itself whether fighting is an inevitable duty and condition, if the answer is yes, then it fights. The Supreme Command is required to prepare the stage of operations and the requirements of success in the political field, foreign policy, internal policy, and the media, in addition to the economic and the social fields, with the cohesion of the people in basic matters. The leadership of Iran failed in all fields.

This leadership isolated the people of Iran from the world. It appeared before the whole world as a power seeking expansion and aggression. Moreover, it wasted the blood of the Iranian children for nothing. Even those who used to move while being hypnotized — as we say in slang — under the influence of the backward ideas that the mullahs of Iran have used until now, they discovered that they were pushed toward hell and not heaven. When they were pushed toward hell for no reason, although it was necessary to avoid hell, you will notice that their power began to decrease.The decrease of their power will, God willing, continue quickly toward downfall.

You will continue to hold your head high before your people. Your people will hold their heads high before history and the people of the world so that your rights will be continuously preserved and you will remain free on your land and in your country; the peoples of Iran will also remain free on their land and in their country. They told them that the ruling regime in Iraq would collapse within 2 weeks. What happened? We have been [fighting] for 5 years. Thank God [we] became more powerful with the power of our people, and their solidarity and cohesion, in addition to the power of your party which has become the party of all Iraqis and not only the party of the Iraqi party members.

When they failed militarily, they told the people that the economy would silence the Baghdad government — as they call it — and Iraq would be laid open without fighting. The stage of economic attrition was destined to turn into an economic siege against them.

As of next year, we hope that a new stage will begin in our economy, which will differ from the stage ending in 1985. They told them that the Iraqi Army does not fight. However, the Iraqi Army — when they launched their aggression — dealt them blows that they have come to know well. They told their people that the Iraqis are divided and that the majority of the Iraqi people supports them, that is, supports Iran against Iraq. However, the Iraqi people turned out to be one example, one warrior in one personality, one mind, and one conscience.

They told them: As soon as you cross the border, the people of Basra will receive you — receive the Iranian occupation army — with flowers. As it turned out, they ran into the steel wall of the Iraqi border, and their foreheads bled and they returned disappointed, without any result. The people of Basra met them with rifles instead of the flowers they had imagined.

Finally the supreme political leadership in Iran told its Army and the Iranian fighters to mass themselves on the border in order to tire the Iraqi Army and sap its strength in accordance with a planned policy of attrition . We were aware of their plans. It turned out to be a state of attrition for them and not for the Iraqi Army.

Therefore comrades, this series of unsuccessful calculations is the work of the Iranian leadership, not the Iranian people or Army. If, God forbid, our leadership fails in calculating its duties on the level of the general mobilization and in using the Iraqi people's capabilities on this level, Iraq would have suffered a setback.

The Iranian leadership stands today historically responsible before its people for the failure suffered so far and for any future failure; it has left a legacy of failure and error. They control dwarfs according to certain calculations and information concerning Iraq, and ensnare them in traps. Among these is the ruler of Damascus who tells them every now and then: Be patient for 6 months and the ruling regime will fall. One can see Zionism playing its part and the grudges of Iranian rulers are playing their role. Their greed, backwardness, and outdated thinking also play a part.

Where Iran is concerned, comrades, utter failure does not lie in the outcome of direct war. Instead it lies in historic backwardness and the seperation of Iran's people and Iran's capability [taqah] for action in the true historical direction according to the conditions of the age. Imagine a country and a people staying aloof from modern culture, avoiding schools and colleges, and avoiding correct scientific logic for 6 years. What will happen to them? The cultural gap between Iran and the region will be very great.

Khomeyni, however, for several years has not been able to move around the streets of Tehran in a car. This is a slow death. A ruler dies when he moves away from the basic line of the people. He continues to live when he is a leading element in the people's basic line, principles, hopes, and aspirations.You always wondered, and the world wondered with you, even military and political affairs experts. They all ask the question: Why do you not attack the Iranian forces carrying out aggression against you, but wait until they attack you and then defend yourselves?

Our clear answer was: The Iranians and enemies of the Arab nation and Iraq tried to create confusion at the beginning of the war. They tried to present to the world the image that Iraq initiated the military operations, ignoring the period of Iranian aggression from 4 September to 22 June. Therefore, we want to let the whole world know of the Tehran regime's aggression. However, letting the world know of their aggression is not enough. It is also important for the world to know that Iraq is using its power to preserve its security, sovereignty, and independence, and nothing more than that. Iraq wants peace, not war and has not resorted to war except through coercion and necessity, which could not be met except with a gun.

Comrades, because of this policy we have endured what most others could not. We have endured the state of consolidated defense for 2 or more years. We have not attacked our enemy resting in its trenches or transferring its mobilized forces from one sector to another. The enemy has been fixing times, axes, directions, weapons, and corps to be used in attacks. We have been waiting for its attack to foil it, either from trenches or by a counterattack. This situation has not just been difficult militarily, but in all factors.

We live guided by mental attitudes concomitant with contemporary laws; we are not out of step or time with them. The leadership has thought of all methods that can render our defense effective, even if the position of our defense is prolonged in the trenches without forward movement. All in all, our calculations have been correct.

Comrades, we must aim at the evil deeds plotted against our territory by striking, weakening, and destroying the Iranian forces until they recognize the fact that Iraqis must stay proud and live in their own territory freely and according to the methods they choose.

Stability in the region is one of our humane, pragmatic, and national responsibilities. Any element trying to destabilize the region must be a stranger to the region's people. The region's stability is a pragmatic, national, and international requirement. The world wants stability in our region. From the national point of view we need stability in the region in general and in Iraq in particular. The Iranian element in its expansionist policy is an element foreign to the region. It is an exception, contravening all contemporary laws in all its meanings and directions.

Islamic Oppostion Groups Reject Husayn Amnesty

AU141237 Paris AFP in English 1231 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 14 (AFP) — Two of the main Islamic opposition movements today rejected an amnesty offered yesterday by President Saddam Husayn to all his Iraqi political opponents, describing it as a "propaganda manoeuvre".

Spokesmen for the two parties, Al-Da'wah and Amal, cast doubt on the honesty of the amnesty offer and urged their supporters to "remain united and continue the struggle to overthrow the Baghdad regime."

The spokesman for the Amal movement, responsible for many attacks against the regime over the past few years, said it would step up its "military operations in Iraq" in response the amnesty offer.

The amnesty was offered to fugitives living in Iraq or abroad. Those living abroad were given 60 days to contact an Iraqi Embassy. Those inside Iraq were given 30 days to surrender.

Armed Forces Issue Communique No 1,742 14 Feb

JN141744 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Communique No 1,742 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 14 February 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

At a time when Iraq's edifice and glory are increasing, its status among nations is entrenched, its power is heightened, and its soldiers proving their absolute superiority on all battlefields, its criminal enemies are falling into an abyss of failure, seclusion, inability, and immoral downfall. This is the outcome of the vast distance between our revolution elevated by

benevolence and the Iranian regime, whose grudges result in its ruin. Thanks be to God who made right overcome falsehood.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In continuation of our firm policy of divesting the enemy of its oil resources which are being employed in aggression, in order to force it to accept justice and peace, and as an expression of Iraq's right and ability, our bold Air Force planes raided two large maritime targets near Khark Island, hitting them accurately and effectively at 1400 today. The Sky Hawks returned safely and triumphantly with their aircraft, praise be to God.

2. In accordance with our decision to destroy the remaining enemy forces and war machine, the valiant Sky Hawks carried out a series of raids against enemy concentrations, positions, and equipment in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting massive losses before returning safely and triumphantly with their aircraft, praise be to God. Seventy-three combat missions were conducted today.

3. Our forward units continued to engage enemy positions, weapon emplacements, and troop concentrations in the operational sector east of Basra, inflicting massive losses in equipment; killing four soldiers; destroying seven infantry positions, one medium machinegun emplacement, and one observation post; and damaging one vehicle. The enemy was seen evacuating its losses.

4. Using artillery and other weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions and observation posts in the central sector of the operational theater, destroying eight infantry positions and two observation posts, killing their occupants.

5. The heroic artillery men delivered violent and concentrated blows to selected targets in the northern sector of the operational theater, killing three soldiers and destroying two infantry positions and one hardware stockpile.

6. One enemy soldier was killed and one infantry position and one observation post were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

7. At a time when our soldiers are fighting the Khomeyniite remnants in the fields of manhood, the Iranian regime finds no way to cover up its impotense except by striking at civilian targets with heavy artillery from a distance. Between 1445 and 1500 today, the criminal enemy shelled the village of Kanaru in the Chuwartah district, martyring one girl, and wounding two women, one man, and one child.

We warn the criminal Iranian rulers against continuing this policy, indicating the consequences of their shelling of civilian targets. We remind those ignorant people that Iraq does what it preaches and that its action will have a deadly effect on them.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 February 1985

Spokesman Details Attacks on Maritime Targets

First, Second Targets

JN141332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Feb (INA) — Iraqi Fighter planes attacked two large maritime targets near Iran's Khark Island and hit them accurately and effectively.

Announcing this a short while ago, a military spokesman said that the Iraqi fighter planes that attacked the two large targets at 1400 today, returned safely to base.

The military spokesman stressed that the Iraqi Armed Forces will continue to implement the Iraqi people's will and insistence on divesting the Iranian regime of the means of aggression until it admits right and accepts the peace calls. He emphasized that the Armed Forces will continue to assert Iraq's legitimate right to deal blows to the remaining Iranian military power and to tighten the siege on Iranian oil supplies as long as the Iranian regime insists on the policy of aggression, ignoring the will of the international community and the Iranian people's interests, and utilizing Iran's resources to sow sedition, backwardness, and subversion.

Third Target

JN141920 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1909 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] A military spokesman stated the following this evening:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The steadfast Iraqis, who are persevering in their heroic jihad and calling for benevolence and for everything that raises man's prestige, are worthy of all this help and guidance from God and of all the victories scored by their righteous sons.

After the valiant Sky Hawks destroyed two large maritime targets at 1400 today, they accurately and effectively hit a very large maritime target near Khark Island at 2000 today. They saw the target catch fire before they returned safely with their aircraft, guarded by God.

O Iraqis, let your joy remain forever and let your victory continue to be splendid under your beloved leader!

[Dated] 14 February 1985

IRNA Notes Casualties on Board Attacked Oil Tanker

LD150841 Tehran IRNA in English 0830 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Bushehr, Bushehr Pr., Feb. 15, IRNA — One crew member was killed and three others were wounded when their Liberian-registered oil tanker was attacked by Iraqi warplanes Thursday, provincial officials said here.

The 25,572-ton *Neptunia* was set on fire by attacking Iraqi warplanes about 50 km south of here Thursday.

Romanian Minister Ends Visit to Iraq
GF141430 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Romanian minister of industrial construction, Ion Petre, and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad today for Romania at the conclusion of a visit to Iraq. During his visit, Ion Petre held talks with Iraqi officials on ways of consolidating the relations of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries in a way that serves the joint interests of the two friendly peoples.

Iraqi-Thai Economic Talks Begin in Baghdad
JN141647 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Feb (INA) — Iraq and Thailand began trade and economic talks here today. Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and minister of trade, headed the Iraqi side, while Koson Krairoek, minister of commerce, headed the Thai side.

In a welcoming speech the Iraqi trade minister stressed the importance of these talks in developing bilateral cooperation based on the agreement concluded between the two countries last year. He said there are wide possibilities to increase trade exchange and to expand various aspects of bilateral cooperation.

The guest minister asserted the importance of these talks in bolstering and promoting bilateral economic relations in the common interest of the two countries.

The Iraqi and Thai sides included representatives of the economic and trade establishments in both countries.

Briefs

Ambassadors Present Credentials — Baghdad, 14 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received the credentials of Maurice Courage, the newly appointed French ambassador, and of Dr Omar Jah, the newly appointed nonresident Gambian ambassador. [Excerpt] [*Baghdad INA in Arabic 0850 GMT 14 Feb 85 JN*]

'Ubaydat on Agreement With PLO, Tunis Visit

JN141700 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis — The Jordanian-Tunisian talks began in Tunis today. Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat headed the Jordanian side and Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali headed the Tunisian side. 'Ubaydat arrived in Tunis today on an official visit. He is accompanied by the Royal Hashemite Court chief, Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah; and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

The prime minister and the delegation accompanying him were received at Carthage International Airport by Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and minister of interior; El-Mezri Chekir, minister attached to the prime minister for civil service and administrative reform; and a number of senior Tunisian officials. Also receiving the prime minister were Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general; Nabih al-Nimr, Jordan's ambassador in Tunis and representative to the Arab League; and the Jordanian Embassy staff in Tunis.

In a statement to journalists at Carthage International Airport, 'Ubaydat said that the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement reached in Amman recently defines joint Palestinian-Jordanian action toward a just settlement of the Palestine question that would maintain the Palestinian Arab people's inalienable rights and focus on liberating the occupied territories, foremost being Jerusalem.

'Ubaydat stressed that Palestinian-Jordanian relations are balanced relations defined by the agreement within the framework of a proposed Arab confederation. The prime minister pointed out that the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement stresses the need to settle the Palestine question through an international conference to be attended by all the parties concerned, with the participation of a joint PLO-Jordanian delegation.

On the Jordanian delegation's visit to Tunis, 'Ubaydat said that the visit is within the framework of consultation and exchange of opinions between the two countries on the basis of cordial bilateral relations, the pillars of which were set by His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba.

Returns From Tunis, Comments

JN141948 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat, Royal Hashemite Court chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri returned to Amman today following a short working visit to Tunis. During the visit, 'Ubaydat met with Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali.

In a statement upon arrival, the prime minister spoke about the nature of the talks. He said: I conveyed His Majesty King Husayn's greetings to his brother, His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, through Mohamed Mzali. The prime minister added: I reviewed with the Tunisian side the most important points in the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement which was signed between the PLO and Jordan in Amman recently. He said: I also explained the political and pan-Arab background of this agreement, its framework, and the stages that preceded its finalization within the framework of Arab cooperation and consultation on the Jordanian-Palestinian stand toward action in the international arena. He said: We also discussed ways to promote cooperation in the trade, economic, and cultural fields between the two fraternal countries.

The prime minister added: We agreed in principle that Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali will visit Jordan at the head of a delegation in the near future, at a time to be set later, in order to further promote relations. He added that the Jordanian side raised issues related to air transportation between Jordan and Tunis and proposed a plan to overcome difficulties. The Jordanian side also suggested that among the priorities to be discussed during the coming meeting in Amman is the issue of cooperation in the field of fertilizer industry and marketing due to the fact that Jordan, Tunisia, and some Arab and African states have interests in this vital field. The two sides also agreed to reactivate trade, commodities exchange, and visits between the private sectors in the two countries. The two sides pledged to overcome existing difficulties in this field.

The prime minister was received upon arrival in Amman airport by a number of ministers.

Italian Defense Delegation Leaves Amman 14 Feb

JN141807 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Amman, 14 Feb (PETRA) — General (Mario Rossi), head of the delegation of teachers and students of the Italian Higher Academy for Defense Studies, and his delegation left Amman today after a week-long state visit to Jordan during which he met with a number of officials.

Islamic Affairs Cooperation Planned With Egypt

JN140746 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14-15 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Amman (PETRA) — Jordan and Egypt will bolster cooperation between the two countries in various fields of Islamic affairs, according to discussions held here between Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs 'Abd Khalaf al-Dawudiyah and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbi.

The two men discussed the exchange of visits, publications and periodicals, exchange of experience in the field of Awqaf and the increase of Egyptian preachers and imams seconded to work in Jordan.

They also stressed the importance of cooperation and coordination between the two countries for the purpose of increasing Islamic knowledge and awareness.

Mr. al-Dawudiyah reviewed the ministry's efforts in Islamic affairs and its support to West Bank Islamic institutions. The

meeting was attended by Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Under Secretary 'Abd al-Salam 'Abbadi.

Cabinet Approves Amended 1985 Passport Law

JN141101 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
14 Feb 85 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman — The Cabinet has approved the amended bylaws on procurement and construction in the Jordanian Armed Forces, the bylaws of the Al-Yarmuk University Institutes, and the bylaws on higher studies at Al-Yarmuk University.

The Cabinet also approved the 1985 Passport Law in accordance with the amendments recently carried out by parliament to Article 3 of Temporary Law No 25 which now reads as follows: No Jordanian passport shall be issued or renewed by Jordanian embassies, consulates, and diplomatic representations without the approval of the authorities the interior minister will define in accordance with regulations he will issue in this respect.

SAWT AL-SHA'B on Husayn's Visit to Algiers

JN141623 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
14 Feb 85 p 1

[Editorial: "The Jordanian-Algerian Meeting Is Penetration of Arab Reality and Its Stalled Axes"]

[Text] King Husayn's visit to fraternal Algeria and the Jordanian-Algerian talks express the nature of this phase and its priorities on the pan-Arab level, as well as the urgent need for Arab cooperation on the bilateral and collective levels, in order to escape from the current dilemma of relations in the Arab arena — relations that have obstructed the mechanism of Arab action and its institutions and led Arab reality into the labyrinth of loss, mistrust, and lack of decision. These relations have also led to the Palestine question and Arab causes being forgotten by international circles.

The importance of this visit stems from the nature of its objectives. These objectives are restoring the effectiveness and influence of Arab action so that it can take part in reviving the Arab cause and saving the occupied Arab territories that are now witnessing a decisive stage in which Israel is paving the way for finally annexing Palestinian land in order to obliterate Arab rights by colonization and deportation plans against Arabs of the occupied territories.

Algiers, with its status and its rational and wise policy, can contribute to changing the difficult equations in the Arab arena, where some stands have reached a limit of obstinacy that serves only our nation's enemies and facilitates the goals of Zionism on Arab land.

King Husayn's talks with President Chadli Bendjedid take place in the wake of an agreement on joint action between Jordan and the PLO to move in the international arena. It is a phase that needs the support and understanding of our brothers and our friends in the international arena.

Algiers has long experience in the service of Arab causes and in mediation to solve Arab disputes, whether among the Palestinians themselves, between Iraq and Iran, or between Syria and Iraq. King Husayn's visit to Algiers comes within the framework of widening the circle of Arab accord and paving the way for a working phase in which Arab political action will take the form of initiatives and dynamic moves that are supported by Arab understanding and unanimity.

It is time for our nation to emerge from the labyrinths of axes that deepen the conflicts in the Arab arena in order to crystallize a political stand that is able to activate international legitimacy and pool international effort and pressure to save the so-called last opportunity of the long search for a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East.

In addition to bolstering bilateral relations, the King Husayn-President Bendjedid talks are an attempt to penetrate the Arab reality and its stalled axes with a sincere endeavor aimed at creating a strong Arab front that stands by Arab rights, so that Palestinian rights can be restored before the Arab reality becomes a problem for the Palestine question.

AL-RA'Y Calls for Unified Arab Stand on Agreement

JN141308 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
14 Feb 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Jordanian-Palestinian Agreement and the Arab Leaders' Responsibility"]

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn's talks with President Bendjedid and Algerian officials received positive and good reactions by Algerian papers yesterday. Likewise, the Jordanian- Palestinian agreement to revive the cause has received large-scale positive reactions among the kinfolk in the occupied territories and in the Arab arena. This suggests that real potentials are available to build the Arab umbrella that will bless the agreement and, consequently, will give the cause an opportunity to benefit from the international circumstances that loom on the horizon, including the initiative that states in the European community are preparing to declare, as well as the talks the two superpowers will begin in Vienna next Thursday, and which will focus on the Middle East issue.

In light of this, it becomes clear that speeding up the establishment of this desired umbrella is an urgent need that cannot be postponed. This means that Arab leaders are asked to adopt a unified Arab stand that supports the agreement before the entire world and marks the restoration of Arab solidarity and the emergence of a coordinated and strong Arab stand that will confront the challenges and will give the cause a push forward on the list of international priorities. The Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is a basic pillar within the desired solidarity. Pan-Arab duty dictates the entrenchment of this solidarity to enable the Arabs to hold the reigns of the cause and have a role in reviving and directing it in a manner that serves the just rights of its owners.

It must be remembered that every effort exerted to clear the atmosphere among the Arab leaders is an effort that deserves

support and backing and should not be postponed. For a long time Jordan has been calling for bypassing sensitivities and placing pan-Arab interests above all other considerations. Jordan continued to show more signs of readiness for cooperation out of its belief that Arab atmospheres must be cleared and that Arab masses deserve to receive responses and to have their call achieved — a call for bypassing disputes and devoting Arab efforts to confronting challenges.

The current phase is one of the most important phases the cause has experienced. Its upshot will be one of the most important factors that will define our cause's future course — a course over which Israel hopes to unilaterally impose its hegemony. Israel has always hoped that the Arabs would fail in assuming a unified role that will guide this course. This responsibility requires Arab leaders to support and bolster the courageous move, represented by the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, and, perhaps, history may record that the stand of these leaders was up to the level of their responsibilities toward the agreement.

JORDAN TIMES on U.S.-Israeli Response to Accord

JN140651 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14-15 Feb 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Compelling Fairness"]

[Text] We are keen to see the response from Israeli and American quarters to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on a diplomatic strategy aimed at a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. It will take a while yet for all the details and nuances of the PLO-Jordan agreement to become known, but it seems clear already that Jordan and the PLO have committed themselves firmly, and jointly, to a negotiated peace based on the concept of the return of occupied territory in exchange for peace. This is nothing new, in fact, from the Arab perspective. Jordan, the PLO and almost everybody else in the Arab World has accepted this principle for many years. But the political muscle of Israel and the political obsequiousness of the United States have always combined to leave Arab expressions of peace unanswered by equally reasonable Israeli or American offers.

The starting point from the Israeli and American views is the absolute security of Israel, Arab recognition of Israel and the claim that the PLO does not necessarily represent the Palestinian people. To seek to negotiate peace from such a one-sided perspective is illogical and unrealistic, and that is why there has been little progress towards peace in recent years.

Now, Jordan and the PLO, backed by an impressive array of Arab and international states, are suggesting a reasonable alternative. Let Israel, the Palestinians and the other Arab states negotiate on the basis of equal rights for Palestinians and Israelis. Let there be security for both Israelis and Palestinians, and guaranteed sovereignty for all the states of the region. The element of reciprocity, balance and fairness in the Jordanian-Palestinian position should be compelling to those in the world who make a big thing of equality of all people before God and the law, due process, and the self-determination of all peoples as a sacred human right. We hope that the new Jordanian-Palestinian position is studied carefully by those who talk so much of peace, but have only approached peace-making to date from the perspective of the primacy of Israeli concerns.

AL-RA'Y on Israeli 'Attack' on PLO Agreement

JN151111 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Feb 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Unified Action Is Our Only Option"]

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir's attack against the Jordanian- Palestinian agreement yesterday, describing it as a negative agreement that does not serve peace, was not strange. Neither is his insistent request to the U.S. Administration, asking it not to respond to the current Arab endeavors and claiming that these endeavors are an Arab trap set for the administration, strange.

The Israeli attack against the agreement can be translated as the Israeli officials' disappointment, after Jordan and the PLO succeeded in crystallizing the joint formula — a formula Israel has always bet would be an unattainable dream. At the same time, the attack expresses anxiety, since the Jordanian- Palestinian agreement has placed the ball in the Israeli court. The attack also expresses fear that the agreement would open the door to an Arab-U.S. dialogue. This is what prodded Shamir into scaring the U.S. Administration about an alleged Arab trap.

Of course, Shamir's statements do not change reality; it is a fact that the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is a positive step for stimulating the cause toward a just solution that brings a comprehensive peace to the region. The recent contacts the Saudi monarch and the Egyptian foreign minister have had with the U.S. Administration are not a trap for this administration; rather, they are aimed at making the administration play a positive role toward the cause by which the United States would regain its prestige and credibility in the region. This is what annoys Shamir and all Israeli officials who are interested in maintaining the deviated, one-sided U.S. stand as it is.

The negative and emotional Israeli stand toward the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is the natural position for the Israeli aggressors, who do not distinguish between different Arab sides. While the Israelis were attacking the agreement, they rejected the U.S. call for discussing the future of the Golan Heights, claiming that the Syrian heights are part of Israel.

In light of these facts, the need to establish a unified and strong Arab stand — a stand that attracts international support for the agreement and opens the door for coordinated action in order to regain the usurped Arab territories in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and the Golan Heights — is more urgent than ever.

Israel has designs against all of us. The real option we have calls on us to carry out united action, regardless of the long road or the magnitude of the challenges facing us.

Israelis 'Besiege' Burj Rahhal, Bulldoze Houses

NC141455 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 4 Feb 85

[Text] According to information received from the south this afternoon, Israeli motorized columns [artal] surrounded the town of Ma'rakah in an attempt to enter it. The inhabitants have been preparing to confront the occupation forces. No details are yet available about the siege of this heroic town. Today the Israeli enemy also visited its wrath upon the town of Burj Rahhal. The enemy besieged it and then stormed it with motorized forces, supported by military helicopters and bulldozers, which bulldozed some of the houses in the town. One house was also blown up.

UNIFIL spokesman Timor Goksel has confirmed the Israeli siege of Burj Rahhal. He also said that 140 persons were arrested by the occupation forces. Other sources have stated that the French contingent operating with UNIFIL tried to prevent the Israeli occupation forces from entering Burj Rahhal but failed.

Meanwhile, the inhabitants and national resistance fighters in the south continue to confront the Israeli blockade, espacially in Tyre area and inside the town of Burj Rahhal, where a number persons have been martyred or wounded. According to official information from western Al-Biqa', the Israeli forces have imposed a strong siege against the town of Kamid al-Lawz for 3 days now, storming and searching houses there. The Israeli occupation forces have also prevented humanitarian and official bodies from entering the town to see what is going on in it.

It has been learned that the Israelis have blown up a house in Jubb Jannin and another in Al-Qir'awn.

Further on Israeli Actions

NC141538 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpts] We have just received the following report on the results of the bestial actions committed against the town of Burj Rahhal:

The report says that 12 houses have been demolished; 'Ali Habib al-Ma'az, a member of the Amal movement, has been martyred; and Ahmad Salim Qarbani and Khadijah and Mahmud Farhah have been wounded. Some 70 citizens have also been arrested. The value of the goods stolen by the Israeli occupation forces is 5 million Lebanese pounds.

Some 35 persons from Al-Khara'ib have been arrested, including Jalal, an Amal movement official.

Israeli, UNIFIL Troops Involved in 'Incident'

LD141634 Paris Domestic Service in French 1600 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] There was an incident this afternoon in southern Lebanon between French Blue Helmets of the UNIFIL force and Israeli soldiers. A dozen French soldiers tried to intervene when Israeli soldiers tried to destroy a house in the village of Burj Rahhal near Tryre by using a bulldozer. Previously some 60 villagers had been arrested. The atmosphere soon heated up, some 30 French soldiers came to the aid of their comrades and there was some jostling. Finally, the Israeli soldiers did destroy the suspect house before withdrawing. It is said that it is not ruled out that UNIFIL might lodge a complaint with the Israeli authorities following the incident.

Prime Minister Karami Praises Resistance in South

NC150942 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has praised the Lebanese national resistance forces and their major role in expelling the Israeli occupation from Lebanese territory.

He said in a press statement published in Dubai today that the Lebanese authority's efforts to correct the economic and financial situation in the country supplement the efforts to liberate the land from the evil of the Israeli occupation.

Cabinet Discusses Economic Problems 14 Feb

NC141710 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil today chaired a special Cabinet meeting held at the B'abda Palace to discuss ways of coping with the economic problems facing the country. The decision to hold the meeting was taken at the regular Cabinet meeting yesterday. The session today was attended by Prime Minister Karami and Cabinet members with the exception of Ministers Sham'un, Junblatt, and Birri. Also present were top labor union leaders who reported on the economic problems facing the average Lebanese.

President al-Jumayyil stressed that the crisis facing the country was of national, not governmental dimension and required a national response rather than a governmental one.

Prime Minister Karami said that every effort would be exerted to deal with the economic crisis and he called for public cooperation with government measures.

Birri Explains Absence From Cabinet Meetings

NC141733 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Minister of State Nabih Birri indicated today that he was not boycotting meetings of the Cabinet and was not on bad terms with the ministers. He stressed, however, that the regime is boycotting the Cabinet, in a sense that the policy statement is not being implemented. He promised to attend once implementation of the policy statement gets under way.

In a reference to the situation in south Lebanon, Minister Birri said that it was essential to maintain the momentum and to benefit from the disintegration of the so-called army of southern

Lebanon, many of whose men have deserted or have been captured. The minister accused Israel of oppressive measures, especially in the Tyre area. He referred to the brutal attacks on the Jabal 'Amil Vocational Institution and he urged strong condemnation of this brutality. He noted that many of the countries around the world have failed to even raise a voice against Israel. He was critical of the inaction of the Lebanese authorities.

Minister Birri went on to say that Israel was continuing to push ahead with its conspiracy and [words indistinct] people being taken in by its talk of a withdrawal. He stressed that the Israeli conspiracy against Lebanon was still going strong. He noted that only a total and complete Israeli withdrawal would indicate that Israel was leaving for good.

Minister Birri questioned the lack of any outspoken condemnation by the Cabinet of the Israeli attack on the Jabal 'Amil Institution and its wave of repressions in the Tyre area.

Minister Birri met today with a delegation of former Ansar [detention camp] prisoners who submitted a memorandum on Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention. He noted that under [words indistinct] hundreds of people, including elderly and youths, were living under inhuman conditions.

Birri in Damascus To Settle AMAL Differences
NC141222 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] It has been learned that the purpose of Minister Nabih Birri's current visit to Damascus is to iron out his differences with leaders of the Amal Movement more than settling his differences with the leaders of the Lebanese regime. Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam is expected to meet with Minister Birri, 'Akif Haydar, and Hasan Hashim, and perhaps with Rabab al-Sadr to solve their differences and problems.

It is known that Birri accuses some officials of the Syrian Ba'th Party in Lebanon, particularly Ibrahim Fawwaz, of instigating and supporting Hashim and his associates to stand against him. Birri has communicated this to Khaddam. This explains why Khaddam invited Hashim to Damascus. Hashim went to the Syrian capital accompanied by 'Ali Ayyub and met with Khaddam.

'Ali Ayyub continues to prevent the printing of the *AMAL BULLETIN* on its own priting press or on the *AL-SHARQ* paper's printing press. The last bulletin was printed on the *AL-SAFIR* printing press. This confirms Birri's accusation of the Syrian Ba'th in Lebanon.

Defense Minister on Israeli Withdrawal
NC141835 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran today forecasted a clean Israeli withdrawal from Sidon. He added that Palestinian maneuvers will not be repeated and that any infringement will be severely repressed when the Army takes over security in evacuated areas. In an interview to be released tomorrow in the French-language weekly *LA REVUE DU LIBAN*, 'Usayran said that the Army will perform its task successfully in south Lebanon because southerners are well aware of their responsibilities.

Al-Najmah Square Security Plan Obstructed
NC151004 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] The removal of ramparts and the dismantling of mines in the center of Beirut were obstructed today. Intensive contacts are underway among the Security Committee members to resume the operation.

Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, has threatened to reveal the identities of those seeking to obstruct the plan in Al-Najmah Square.

Resistance Calls on 'Collaborators' to Surrender
NC141702 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] In a statement issued today, the Lebanese resistance front called on all those who collaborate with Israel to turn themselves and their weapons in to the resistance before 18 February, and warned them of the consequences of ignoring this call.

ASL Corrects Reports on 'Captured' Personnel
JN141414 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1100 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] A spokesman for the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] has stated the following: Some radio stations and newspapers have reported that a military operation was carried out against a position belonging to the ASL in the town of Ansar and that a numebr of soldiers were captured during the operation. Since the real situation contradicts this alleged report, the ASL command deemed it necessary to point out matters, hoping that the news media will make sure of their reports before circulating them. The real story is as follows:

Some ASL personnel who live in areas which the ASL and the IDF have evacauted or will evacuate during the first and second phases of the scheduled withdrawals, have submitted their resignations due to the pressure and threats to which their families were exposed. Some of the soldiers, whose number does not exceed 10, escaped.

This matter was expected and considered by the ASL command, which was able to take the necessary measures. However, it did not do so out of its belief that military service is a volunatary action that is based on faith and principles. The ASL command would like to say that these reports will not affect the effectiveness and moral of the ASL, which will continue to perform its duties toward the citizens.

Damascus To Hand Over U.S. Correspondent

JN150622 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' summoned the U.S. ambassador in Damascus yesterday evening to inform him that Jeremy Levin, one of the U.S. citizens who had been kidnapped in Lebanon, has sought refuge with one of the Syrian military positions in Lebanon and that he is in good health.

Levin will be brought to Damascus in the next few hours and will be handed over to the U.S. ambassador at the Foreign Ministry this morning, Friday.

Al-Asad Decrees Release of Lebanese Detainees

NC141235 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that Syrian President Hafiz al-Azad has issued a decree, No 11,038, granting amnesty to all Lebanese detainees in Syrian jails within the next 48 hours. Informed sources think it is likely that the detainees will be handed over to the Lebanese Army in the Shtawrah area. These sources say that this decision is a personal initiative by Syrian President al-Asad toward Lebanon on the occasion of his reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic for the third time.

Khaddam Receives Swedish Defense Minister

JN141249 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Swedish Defense Minister Anders Thunborg at 1000 today. The meeting was attended by the Swedish ambassador in Damascus, Goran Berc, and Major General 'Adnan Tayyarah. The talks dealt with the current situation in the region.

Al-Shar' Receives Defense Minister

JN142040 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2025 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 14 Feb (SANA) — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' this evening received Swedish Defense Minister Anders Thunborg, who is currently visiting Syria. The meeting was attended by Major General 'Adnan Tayyarah and the Swedish ambassador in Damascus. The talks dealt with current developments in southern Lebanon and UNIFIL's role in securing the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

AL-BA'TH Criticizes Egypt's Support for Agreement

JN150933 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 15 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The People Will Foil the Amman Agreement," *AL-BA'TH* says: The great enthusiasm Mubarak's regime is showing toward the treasonous Amman agreement completes the successive conspiratorial moves which began with 'Arafat's departure from Lebanon, throwing himself into the lap of Al-Sadat's successor, and subsequently prostrating himself at the feet of his majesty, the one who committed mass exterminations of the Palestinian people.

The Egyptian regime's enthusiasm is not for crowning the ill-omened agreement as much as for paving the way for the Washington visit during which the godfather of the monarchial-'Arafatist deal will submit the overt and covert provisions of the agreement to the White House.

This in preparation for starting direct negotiations between Israel and the parties to this deal, or in preparation for the beginning of the settlement, as a spokesman for the Egyptian regime has stated.

AL-BA'TH adds: Irrespective of the agreement's overt provisions — specifically those dealing with the precondition on 'Arafat's recognition of Israel, or with authorizing the Jordanian king to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinian people through the slogan of the confederal union — irrespective of all these irrefutable facts offered by the parties to the deal, the agreement itself will continue to be a forgery, a falsehood, and a clear and blatant attempt to liquidate the Palestinian cause through a reactionary axis, whose specific task is to assiduously serve Zionism and the United States.

AL-BA'TH concludes: What we would like to recall is that the Camp David accords and the 17 May agreement did not survive because they were stillborn.

Al-Sadat and his successor also proceeded unsuccessfully on the road to normalization, and Israel and the United States experienced many difficulties in implementing the 17 May agreement. However, all these attempts have gone to waste and victory has always been on the people's side, because they are the stronger force. The treasonous agreements were foiled by the people's force, and the Amman agreement will have the same fate, no matter how many trips 'Arafat makes from one capital to another and no matter how many papers Mubarak and Husayn deliver to the White House.

Briefs

Soviet Sports Protocol— Damascus, 14 Feb (SANA) — A sports cooperation protocol between Syria and the Soviet Union was signed here today. It was signed, on the Syrian side, by Samih Mudallal, chairman of the General Sports Union, and on the Soviet side by (Urazov), first deputy chairman of the USSR Committee for Physical Culture and Sports. The protocol states that sports teams will be exchanged between the two friendly countries. The Soviet Union will also provide Soviet instructors for gymnastics, boxing, judo, free style wrestling, Greco-Roman wresting, and chess, in addition to experts in the field of sports medicine. [Excerpts] [*Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 14 Feb 85 JN*]

Reaction to U.S. Official's Statement on Golan Heights

Sharon Rejects Golan Negotiations

TA141149 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon says that the Israeli Government should immediately make clear to the U.S. Administration that there is no room for negotiations or concessions on the Golan Heights. He said this during a meeting in his office with heads of the Golan Heights settlements. The head of the Qazrin Council, Sami Barlev, told our correspondent Hayim Hecht that following the meeting, Minister Sharon gave orders to immediately cancel the freeze on investments for the Golan Heights.

[Begin Barlev recording] He immediately gave orders to the effect that the Golan Heights has high priority. He has ordered an immediate end to the freeze to aid approved plants on the Golan Heights. We see this as a proper reply to the declaration [of the State Department]. [end recording]

Our correspondent says that on the recommendation of the heads of the Golan settlements, Minister Sharon will propose that the Cabinet immediately decide to establish new settlements on the Golan Heights.

Shamir Criticizes Golan Statement

TA141517 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1415 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Tel Aviv, 14 Feb (ITIM) — Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today rejected the statement made by a U.S. Administration official, who said that the Golan is negotiable. Mr Shamir emphasized that the position of the entire Israeli Cabinet is that the Golan is an inseparable part of Eretz Yisra'el, and this is also supported by the Knesset resolution of December 1981. "Not even a statement by an American offical will change this."

Mr Shamir called on residents of the Golan Heights not to get too worked up by such statements, and to continue to develop the area and live there as a part of Israel.

The vice prime minister made these statements at a luncheon address to members of the Israeli Insurance Companies Association at the Dan Hotel in Tel Aviv. Referring to the new Jordanian "peace plan," the foreign minister said that the plan is actually intended for the ears of the U.S. President and the U.S. Administration. The details have not yet been publicized, but reports so far indicate that this is neither a peace plan nor an initiative that will lead to peace; rather, it is intended to promote a Palestinian-PLO state, which Israel will never accept and which will also mark the beginning of the end of the Jordanian monarchy.

Mr Shamir noted that the participation of the PLO as a central element in such a plan contradicts peace, because wherever the PLO is, there is war, clashes, and terrorism. "We have invited King Husayn to enter negotiations, but the closer he gets to the PLO, the farther away peace is," Mr Shamir said. He added that the call for an international peace conference on the Middle East, with the participation of the permanent members of the Security Council, including the Soviet Union, Arab countries, and the PLO will also not serve the cause of peace, but will serve as another forum for anti-Israeli propaganda, with the result that chances for peace will diminish and chances for an exacerbation of the situation will increase. "We hope the U.S. Administration will not be lured into blindly falling for this hoax," the foreign minister declared, adding that in this context he is also referring to the upcoming Soviet-American conference on the Middle East. "Our friends in the United States know that nothing that denies Israel its life and existence will be decided without our participation," the minister said.

Mr Shamir added that Israel has already fulfilled its duty for the cause of Middle East peace, since the Camp David accords included all possible concessions. Today an attempt is being made to forget these agreements, the foreign minister pointed out, and even Egypt — a party to them — is trying to ignore them and erase them, in spite of their being the most important historic event in the Middle East in the last 3 decades. However, the minister claimed, the Camp David agreements are actually the realization of UN Security Council Resolution 242, since as part of these agreements Israel withdrew from approximately 90 percent of the areas it had control of as a result of the 6-Day War. In addition to this, they included an agreement for full autonomy for Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. "Israel has completely carried out its duties regarding Middle East peace, and we owe nothing more. Now all the other factors in the region must pay their dues. Egypt must imbue the peace accord between us with real substance, in each and every clause; and Jordan must pay its share by accepting our invitation to sit at the negotiating table and talk on the basis of the Camp David accords too. The United States, on the other hand, must take into account our statements, and if there is no peace in the Middle East, this will not be our fault, but will happen despite our wishes. We have done everything, and are continuing to do everything, for the sake of peace here." the minister said.

Mr Shamir added that we really cannot rest on our laurels. We must strengthen and build up Israel's strength, and continue to strengthen and develop our settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. In this context, Shamir expressed the hope that the number of Jews residing in these territories — which currently stands at 50,000 — will double within 2 to 3 years. At any rate, he noted, the presence of Jews in all of Eretz Yisra'el all the way down to the Jordan River is an unalterable fact, which will continue to become stronger.

The meeting was opened by Mr 'Uzi Levi, who is the vice chairman of the Insurance Companies Association.

Peres Adviser on Statement

TA141740 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1733 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Here is a report just in from our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. The prime minister's adviser on communications affairs, Uri Savir, reacted this evening to remarks by a senior U.S. Administration official, who said that Israel should negotiate with Syria over the future of the Golan Heights. The

spokesman said Israel is prepared for negotiations on peace with all its neighbors; including Syria, but that country has not given any sign or shown a willingness to follow the path of peace, and has also proven this recently. As for the Golan Heights, it is well known that Israeli law was applied to that area by the Knesset.

Settlers React to Remarks

TA141207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Leaders of the Golan settlements have reacted strongly to the State Department's remarks on their final status. The settlers say that Prime Minister Peres should make it clear immediately to the administration that in the wake of the law annexing the Golan Heights 3 years ago, there is nothing to discuss. The settlers are meeting today in an emergency session to talk about the Washington statement. The State Department spokesman said Israel and Syria should discuss the final status of the Heights as part of general negotiations to settle the Middle East dispute, noting that the Heights were mentioned in Resolutions 242 and 338.

Druze Strike Protesting Golan Heights Law

TA140950 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0925 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] There is a general strike in the four Druze villages on the Golan Heights. Students are not attending school, workers are not going to work, and shops are closed. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that at this moment, hundreds of Druze from both sides of the border are convening on the hill separating Israel and Syria near the village of Majdal Shams. The Druze from the other side of the border are conveying encouragement to their brethren in Israel by means of loudspeakers, calling on them to continue their opposition to the Golan Heights Law [imposing Israeli rule on the Golan Heights]. The strike on the Golan Heights marks the 3d anniversary of the approval of the Golan Heights Law in the Knesset.

Syrian Flags Flown

TA141425 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Three Syrian flags were flown on the Israeli side of a hill separating Israel from Syria near Majdal Shams. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that this happened during a rally of Druze from both sides of the border that was being held on the hill. There was a full strike in the Druze villages on the Golan today, to mark the 3d anniversary of the law applying Israeli law to the Golan Heights. Police did not interfere.

Sharon Reiterates Stand on Autonomy

TA140917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon is repeating his stand that the Palestinian aspirations should be realized in Jordan. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that in a talk with three U.S. congressmen, Minister Sharon said that he does not recommend annexing the territories, but he favors adherence to the Camp David accords and granting autonomy to the residents. Such an arrangement, he said, would guarantee Israel's presence in the territories even after the autonomy period.

On the PLO-Jordanian agreement, Sharon said he does not believe that it will produce any tangible results.

Foreign Ministry Guidelines on PLO-Jordan Accord

TA141219 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Report by Shafy Gabay, 'Oded Granot, and Refa'el Mann]

[Excerpt] Israeli representatives around the world have been requested to disprove any impression that could arise from reports on the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement to the effect that there is an important change in the stands of the PLO and Jordan, in that they are interested in entering into peace negotiations with Israel.

Foreign Ministry officials believe that the contents of the agreement prove the PLO is continuing its armed struggle against Israel and that the organization has not changed its stand favoring a continuation of acts of terrorism.

Jerusalem believes that the "framework agreement" between Husayn and 'Arafat was signed at the last minute under Egyptian pressure.

'Arafat Reportedly Makes Concession on Representation

TA141418 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by political correspondent Dalya Shehori and correspondent in the territories Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres yesterday met U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis in the former's office. During the meeting the ambassador gave the prime minister information about the talks with Saudi King Fahd in Washington, and assessments were exchanged concerning the agreement between King Husayn and PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat.

From the various reports published on the Husayn-'Arafat agreement — which so far have not been denied — the main achievement apparently is 'Arafat's willingness to share representation of the Palestinians with Husayn, preserving complete equality between them. From Husayn's point of view this step means regaining his legitimacy — which he lost during the 1974 Rabat Conference — as the representative of the Palestinian people. Husayn, however, cannot take any action in the name of the Palestinians on the issue of entering negotiations without 'Arafat's agreement, whereas 'Arafat has made it clear that the political move that he supports is an international conference with the PLO's participation.

To judge by King Husayn's method of operating, nobody believes that he will attempt to make an independent political move, and it is assumed that for the moment at least, the Husayn-'Arafat agreement will not result in a political move mediated by the Americans, or in the convening of a forum such as the Geneva conference. The main novelty in this agreement is seen in the inter-Arab context, rather than in the Israeli context. From the reports published, it is also apparent that 'Arafat has not agreed to accept UN Resolution 242, not explicitly and not under any preconditions.

Political sources believe that the Husayn-'Arafat agreement — which was coordinated with Egypt and later brought to the attention of Algeria — is meant to serve the interest of the Arab countries which have ties with the United States. Following the visit by King Fahd to Washington, Algerian President Bendjedid is expected there, and following him Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Political sources regard the Husayn-'Arafat agreement as a joint Arab attempt to show Washington that the Arab world is not standing still, but has rather come up with a political initiative to settle the conflict in the region.

Sources in the West Bank close to Jordan have told our correspondent that the real agreement between Husayn and 'Arafat speaks of establishing a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for negotiations to be held in the framework of a broad international conference. 'Arafat has agreed that the Palestinian component will be represented by people who are not PLO members, to pull the rug out from under Israel's feet, which says it will not talk with the PLO. In return, 'Arafat received Jordanian guarantees concerning the results of the negotiations, namely that the territories will be handed over to the PLO in the framework of a confederation with Jordan. The Palestinian side of such a delegation will be made up of dignitaries who might also be acceptable to Israel, those who lean toward the PLO, and prominent members of the Palestinian lobby in the United States.

Israeli sources told our correspondent that to date the details of the agreement are unknown, and that the idea of a joint delegation does not seem feasible to them. They added that on the eve of the Husayn-'Arafat agreement relations between the two were about to explode.

Avneri Reports on Meeting With 'Arafat

TA141544 [Editorial report] Tel Aviv *HA'OLAM HAZE* in Hebrew on 13 February publishes on pages six, seven, and eight a report by Uri Avneri under the heading "On Return From Somewhere," in which he describes a meeting held between himself; a delegation of Progressive List MK's Muhammad Mi'ari and Matityahu Peled, and three other "sympathizers" from Israel; and Yasir 'Arafat. The specific date and place of the meeting is not given. Avneri explains that he cannot reveal the location of the meeting because it could cause the country concerned many problems.

On the problem of the missing IDF soldiers, Avneri states: "We raised the matter of the missing as one of prime importance," and according to Avneri 'Arafat's response was: "No problem, we will pass on to you all the information we have about the missing." Avneri then comments that some of the information is to be found in the PLO Operational Department and some is being held by the Al-Sayiqah organization, some of whose leaders "have recently transferred to 'Arafat's camp." As for how long it will take to get the information, Avneri says some of the bodies are buried in Lebanon in areas under Syrian control; if this was not so, the PLO would have sent the bodies back, as it did in other cases involving captured soldiers.

Avneri believes the general conclusion to be drawn from the interview is that the "best hope for furthering the peace process now lies in contacts between the United States and the USSR." "There are already initial signs from the United States of a willingness to reexamine its relations with the PLO, and its approach to the idea of the international conference for peace in the Middle East." Avneri believes "the PLO is pinning more hopes on this development than on contacts between the United States and its friends in the Arab world."

Avneri says he received the impression that the publicized split in the PLO is a fiction. "Not only 'Arafat himself, but other PLO members sounded cautiously optimistic" about this, Avneri writes. The entire PLO was proud of the democracy that prevailed during the PNC meeting, he noted.

Moving on to the issue of PLO attacks against Israeli targets and vice versa, Avneri states that Matityahu Peled suggested a cease-fire to facilitate the holding of an international conference. According to Avneri, 'Arafat responded by saying the PLO is capable of keeping any such agreement, and he discussed several cases from the past by way of illustration.

Discussing Israeli political figures, Avneri writes that 'Arafat commented on Weizman arousing interest in the PLO, but Peres has disappointed it, and Rabin is even more disliked. 'Arafat is said to comment that "this is the weakest government Israel has ever had." However, he does not feel it will fall unless the United States achieves an agreement with the USSR on the Middle East.

Avneri sums up the talk by expressing the Israeli delegation's satisfaction with 'Arafat's response to the questions about the Israeli missing in action, and "both sides expressed their view that the best way to achieve a just peace is to hold an international peace conference under UN auspices" with the participation of all parties involved in the dispute, including the Soviet Union and the United States.

'No Breakthrough' in Talks With Egypt on Daqar, MIA's

TA141243 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 p 2

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] There is as yet no breakthrough in the contacts with Egypt to allow Israel to search for the *Daqar* submarine and its 68 missing crewmen near the Egyptian coastline. The Israeli delegation to the talks on this and other issues, held in the MFO Command in the Sinai for 2 days, returned to Israel yesterday.

It should be noted however that Egypt has agreed in principle to allow Israel to search for the submarine and the 19 MIA's. It was

agreed that the next meeting will take place in a month in the same framework of the military liaison committee.

The Israeli delegation to the talks was headed by Brigadier General Dov Si'on, while the Egyptian delegation was headed by Brigadier Faruq Labib. The MFO was represented by its commander, Norwegian General Inge Brigtsen.

Egypt's Mubarak Sends Message to Peres

TA142007 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Today the prime minister met with the Egyptian charge d'affaires, Muhammad Basyuni. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the Egyptian diplomat gave the prime minister a verbal message from President Mubarak. It is reported that the message is of a friendly character. Basyuni also reported to the prime minister about Egypt's decision to permit Israeli tourists to anchor off Coral Island.

Shamir Denies Weizman in Charge of Trade With PRC

TA141126 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 p 8

[Report by Ya'aqov Ha'elyon and Yitzhaq Dish]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has denied a report that the government has appointed Minister Without Portfolio 'Ezer Weizman to be in charge of trade ties between Israel and China.

Shamir said this in reaction to an artcle published by *NEWS WEEK*. He called the article nonsense.

Cooperation Agreement Reported Signed With S. Africa

TA141136 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Israel and South Africa have secretly signed a technological-scientific cooperation agreement. The agreement was signed a few weeks ago with a South African economic delegation which visited Israel, and it deals with the joint development of technological and scientific projects worth $5 million.

The contacts preceding the agreement were conducted by the Finance and Industry and Trade Ministries, and the agreement was approved by the Cabinet.

The agreement was kept secret so as not to revive criticism against Israel's links with the apartheid regime in South Africa. The Foreign Ministry has recently increased its efforts to renew relations with several countries in Black Africa, and strengthening relations with South Africa is one factor obstructing this trend. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent notes that recently Israel has been denounced in many international conferences for its relations with South Africa. This issue was also the center of discussions at the Socialist International meeting in which Prime Minister Shim'on Peres participated. During his latest visit to the United States Peres made statements to the press denouncing apartheid.

It has been learned that other economic agreements with South Africa may be signed in the near future.

CRM Prepares Document on Territories

TA140741 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 14 Feb 85 pp 1, 7

[Text] Jewish settlers south of Bethlehem have 7,000 telephone lines, as compared with only 260 lines for a much larger Arab population in the same area. This is one of the examples of alleged discrimination by the Israeli authorities against Arab residents in the administered territories cited in a document to be submitted today by the Citizen's Rights Movement [CRM] to Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

The document, which details proposals for improving the quality of life of inhabitants of the territories, scathingly criticizes the military government and Civil Administration.

The document charges that the government's economic policy has blocked growth in the West Bank and Gaza and turned them into auxiliaries of the Israeli economy. "The economic development of the area is dictated by that of the Israeli economy," the paper says. "This is one of the strongest factors facilitating the annexation of these territories" and "could disrupt their separation from Israel in the event of a political settlement."

The paper asserts that the rise in the standard of living in the territories stems mainly from externally generated income and "has not been accompanied by the economic development of the area." This policy "encourages a situation in which the West Bank and Gaza are...completely dependent on Israel and incomes from Arab states," according to the paper.

The authors of the document cite repeated refusals since 1979 by the military government to grant permits for local economic projects, and urges that it adopt a policy which will help the territories become self-sufficient. This would include cancelling military orders, limiting agricultural production to protect Israeli agricultural goods, and the approval of some 150 new economic cooperatives. Opening of local banks would help generate an independent credit and capital system, according to the paper.

The document notes that since 1967, no permission has been given to West Bank Arabs to dig new wells. "The policy of land expropriation and declaration of tracts as state land, along with the restrictions on utilization of new water resources, limits the area's potential for agricultural growth," the paper says.

It notes that in contrast with this policy toward the Arabs, 20 new deep-water sources have been located for Jewish residents of the territories.

A similar contrast is noted in telephone service. In the area south of Bethlehem there are 7,000 phone lines for Jews and only 260 for Arabs, according to the document. It adds that in Hebron there are 700 phone lines, while Qiryat Arba' has 4,000. The

authors urge the opening of telephone exchanges for the Arab population of the territories.

In the legal realm, the paper notes a "huge" column of legislation by the military government without adequate controls by a civilian authority. It urges "the imposition of public-parliamentary supervision of military government legislation."

Military government orders reveal "discrimination in favour of Jewish settlers in cases where these citizens sue and are sued by Arab residents in the territories," according to the document. It demands the equalization of the legal status of Israeli citizens and local residents in the courts.

The document notes the absence of courts of appeal of sentences issued by the military tribunals, and urges the establishment of a military appeals court in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It also warns against a tendency to transfer legal authority from civil to military courts in the territories, and terms this "a serious infringement of the rights of the local residents."

In the area of social welfare, the paper charges that labourers from the territories working in Israel receive lower wages, less vacation days, and far less compensation when fired than Israeli workers of equal status. The Arab labourers are also not eligible for sick and mourning leaves, according to the paper.

Though Arabs from the territories pay the same amounts of national insurance taxes as Israelis, they are only covered against bankruptcy, work accidents, and birth expenses. They do not receive the benefits enjoyed by Israelis, such as insurance for survivors and widows, and disability and old age pensions.

The document cites Red Cross statistics showing that a significant number of requests for reunification of families in the territories with relatives in Arab countries have been turned down without explanation.

In addition, freedom of assembly in the territories has been hampered by the authorities through harassment of labour unions, womens' organizations, and philanthropic groups "without justified reasons of security," according to the document. It urges the holding of municipal elections as a means to create local leadership, which it says could promote the development of the administered territories.

Shamir Confirms Jewish Settlement in Hebron

TA131159 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today addressed the Knesset saying he has no doubt whatsoever that a large Jewish settlement will be established in Hebron.

In reply to a question by Knesset Member [MK] El'azar Granot of MAPAM, Yitzhaq Shamir said that the Cabinet's decison of 1980, according to which a Jewish settlement will be set up in Hebron, is still valid and is also binding on the national unity government.

Rabin, CRM Discuss Khirbat al-Rumaythah

TA141833 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said he is opposed to any Jewish settlement being established at Khirbat al-Rumaythah in Hebron. Rabin met today with a delegation from the CRM to discuss the situation in the territories.

Knesset Member [MK] Shulamit Aloni told the Voice of Israel afterwards that it was her impression that although Rabin is opposed to Jewish settlement in Hebron and Nabulus, he does not have the capability of getting the settlers who are squatting at Khirbat Al-Rumaythah moved off the site.

Settlers Respond to Rabin

TA141954 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said no Jewish settlement will be established in Khirbat al-Rumaythah as long as the Cabinet makes no decision about this, and he hopes no such decision will be made. At a meeting with Knesset members from the CRM, the minister said that the meaning of declaring the hill an archelogical site is that it is impossible to build houses there. He also said he is opposed in principle to the establishment of Jewish settlements in the heart of Arab towns such as Hebron and Nabulus.

The committee of Khirbat al-Rumaythah inhabitants reacted this evening by saying that there is no argument with the Alignment ministers about the establishment of a Jewish settlement, since such a settlement already exists. The argument focuses on the question of whether the current government will honor the previous government's decisions to expand the settlement.

Rabin Said Against Competition

TA150708 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 15 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] The government will not permit development projects in Judea, Samaria, and the Gaza District that might compete with Israeli enterprises. Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reportedly told Knesset Members [MK's] of the CRM who met with him yesterday. The four MK's and the movement's secretary gave Rabin a document outlining ways to improve the quality of life of Arab residents in the administered territories, and urged him to take action on the basis of their proposals.

MK Shulamit Aloni said after the meeting Rabin had told the group that "there will be no development (in the territories) initiated by the Israel Government, and no permits will be given for expanding agriculture or industry (there), which may compete with the State of Israel." However, Rabin did agree to the establishment of an Arab bank in the territories, and said he would permit industries there that would not compete with Israeli production, according to Aloni.

Aloni said that while Rabin admitted that deporting agitators from the territories is "very complicated," he favours this option as a deterrent punishment.

The CRM plans to meet on the same issue with Prime Minister Peres.

Ne'eman, Beilin on Settlement

TA141143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Tehiya MK Yuval Ne'eman clarified that a decision reached by a ministerial committee, which is not appealed for a duration of 2 weeks, automatically becomes a government decision. Yuval Ne'eman expressed wonder about remarks made by the prime minister concerning the matter of settlement in Khirbat al-Rumaythah, according to which only the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs and not the entire government approved the settlement. Ne'eman expressed to our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami the hope that the Likud ministers will insist that the decision be implemented.

Cabinet Secretary Yosef Beilin said in reaction that on the issue of the settlement in Khirbat al-Rumaythah, there is not even a decision of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, but only a statement by the then chairman of the committee, Yuval Ne'eman, and needless to say, there is no government decision.

Government Sets Status Quo

TA141203 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by Yehuda Litani]

[Text] The Civilian Administration in Judaea and Samaria has in the last few days published an order declaring the entire area of Khirbat al-Rumaythah, including the settlers' temporary buildings, an "archeological site."

According to the order, it is forbidden to build or erect buildings or fences, plant orchards, etcetera, in the entire area outlined on the map attached to the order. The archeology staff officer in Hebron yesterday met all the Arab landowners in Khirbat al-Rumaythah and told them that nothing must be changed in the area, because it has been declared an "archeological site." The spokeswoman of the Judaea and Samaria Civilian Administration has said that the Israeli settlers living at the site have not yet received similar notification, but they will receive one in the next few days.

Sources in the Civilian Administration said that the meaning of this step is a complete status quo in the area, and that from now on anyone — whether Jewish or Arab — who tries to change the existing facts in the area will clearly be violating the order of the Civilian Administration.

Khirbat al-Rumaythah had been declared an archeological site during the British Mandate (in 1944). However, the declaration of the Civilian Administration is more specific, and includes an accurate map which delimits the area.

In a ministerial consultation held yesterday, the issue of the settlement in Khirbat al-Rumaythah was raised. It has been learned, however, that at this stage the decision is to leave the situation as is, without any changes, until further discussions are held on the issue. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent notes that the meaning of the decision is preserving the status quo — the settlers will not be allowed to erect additional buildings, but at this stage they will be able to remain on the site in the eight temporary buildings housing them.

The International BETAR [Likud youth movement] leadership recently announced that it intends to establish its offices at the Khirbat al-Rumaythah site. The announcement says that the decision to establish the offices was reached several months ago at the initiation of Minister Moshe Arens. Now, however, following the declarations of Minister Bar-Lev and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on this issue, BETAR has decided to immediately implement its decision on this issue.

The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent notes that this decision has only declarative importance, due to the status quo decided upon by Defense Minister Rabin concerning the issue of Khirbat al-Rumaythah, until the government reaches a decision on the issue. Yesterday Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who addressed the issue of the settlement in Khirbat al-Rumaythah in the framework of "Moqed" [Jerusalem television interview program], said that he opposes the establishment of a settlement in the heart of Hebron. Peres said that the Alignment believes that we have exhausted the possibilities regarding Hebron by establishing Qiryat Arba'. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent notes that the prime minister has recently expressed himself in a closed forum on the issue of Hebron saying that he supports "a city next to a city, rather than a city within a city."

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IDF Kills 11 'Terrorists' Near Al-Awwali River

TA161613 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1550 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Report by correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz — live]

[Text] A 20-member terrorist squad apparently crossed the Al-Awwali River last night south of the area controlled by the IDF. They encountered an IDF unit, and began to flee. In the battle that ensued, 11 terrorists were killed and 9 were captured. Our forces sustained no casualties. The terrorists were found to be in possession of guns, Kalashnikovs, and RPG's. This is the second time in less than 24 hours that terrorists have been found and captured by IDF soldiers in areas east of Sidon near the Al-Awwali River. The terrorists are making every effort to return to the IDF-controlled area in southern Lebanon to carry out terrorist attacks. Over the last few months, many squads of terrorists who tried to penetrate the area under our control in southern Lebanon have been killed or captured.

IDF Demolishes Houses During Searches of Villages

TA151528 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1513 Gmt 14 Feb 85

[Text] A Lebanese resident of the Shi'ite village of Burj Rahhal was killed today when a brawl erupted during an IDF search of

the village. Military sources have reported that IDF units near Tyre today searched various villages and detained several people suspected of having carried out attacks against the IDF. Five houses were demolished in the course of the searches. Here is a report by our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz:

[Begin recording] In the Shi'ite village of Burj Rahhal, large IDF units have been conducting searches since this morning for inhabitants who attacked IDF soldiers or who collaborated with the terrorist organizations. UNIFIL headquarters has reported that the IDF entered the villages with tanks and bulldozers and destroyed three houses of inhabitants who attacked the IDF or found in possession of various types of sabotage materials. Not far from there, in Bidyas, an RPG was aimed at an army of southern Lebanon position this afternoon. A roadside bomb exploded near the route of an IDF patrol at the eastern entrance to Sidon. No one was hurt and no damage was caused in either of these two incidents. [end recording]

IDF Terms Raid 'Routine'
TA141548 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1530 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 14 Feb (ITIM) — IDF units carried out searches and detentions in the Shi'ite village of Burj Rahhal near Sidon today. According to a UN spokesman, the IDF detained more than 60 people, and one local inhabitant was killed. The UN spokesman said that during the searches there was a violent clash between the IDF and UN officers, while the latter were trying to prevent IDF bulldozers from demolishing three houses in the village. Military sources have reported that this was a routine IDF operation aimed at capturing people who carry out attacks against The IDF.

"The Shi'ite villages are not immune, and each time we find it necessary, we will enter them to capture those responsible for the attacks," the IDF explained.

Placards were distributed this week in Burj Rahhal and other Shi'ite villages, saying the IDF should not dare enter them.

IDF Sources on Recent Wave of Attacks
TA141439 Tel Aviv BAMAHANE in Hebrew 13 Feb 85 p 5

[Report by Yoni Sa'ar]

[Text] A wave of terrorist acts has recently been noted in the eastern sector of southern Lebanon. Approximately 3 weeks ago, a booby-trapped car exploded at the Jubb Jannin border crossing. The IDF has learned that various organizations intend to increase acts of terrorism in the coming weeks, with the intention of preparing faits accomplis in anticipation of the withdrawal.

Over the last few weeks, large concentrations of terrorists have been seen close to the areas to be evacuated in Lebanon. Security sources believe that the terrorist organizations are concentrating large numbers of troops in a bid to gain control over the areas that will be evacuated soon.

Over the last weeks, the leaders of organizations in southern Lebanon have held several meetings at which the division of the evacuated areas was discussed. The meetings were attended by all leaders of the various organizations — Shi'ites, Palestinians, and others. The wave of increased terrorist acts is part of the preparations being made by the organizations in anticipation of the IDF's withdrawal. This is also being felt in the eastern sector and is meant — according to the sources — for internal bargaining purposes over the right to control areas in the region.

The security measures taken when the roads and crossings in southern Lebanon opened have recently been stiffened in the wake of the latest wave of attacks.

Chief of Staff Sees Stiff Measures in Border Strip
TA141229 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by the military correspondent]

[Excerpt] The IDF will have to implement stiff measures in the security strip close to the border; these measures will differ from those implemented by the IDF in other parts of Lebanon, in case acts of terrorism are perpetrated in Israeli territory. This was said by Chief of Staff Moshe Levi in an interview on Israeli television in Arabic.

The Chief of Staff stressed that we cannot allow a situation in which villages like Al-Nabatiyah and Al-Khiyam continue to prosper while constituting terrorist centers. "The criteria for the strip along the border will differ from those in other parts of Lebanon," the chief of staff added.

In reply to the question whether there is a chance that Sidon will be handed over to the Lebanese Army in an orderly manner, the chief of staff said that the deployment and preparations of the Lebanese Army enable it to enter the area to be evacuated by the IDF and to control it as it does other areas of Lebanon If this does not happen, more struggles between the various fac ns are expected.

In anticipation of the beginning of the IDF withdrawal from the eastern sector, the chief of staff said that the IDF will evacuate this area in accordance with the Cabinet decision, but will not ask permission to dismantle each and every structure.

New Deployment Line Said More Dangerous
TA141456 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 pp 1, 11

[Report by Yosef Walter and Menahem Rahat]

[Excerpts] The IDF is completing the implementation of the first phase of the withdrawal plan, and IDF advance forces have already taken up positions on the new interim line north of the Al-Litani. Major General Ori Or, the commander of the Northern Command, says that the moment the order is received, IDF forces in the Sidon area will be able to evacuate it "within hours." According to foreign news agencies, the IDF is slated to finish the evacuation by next Monday.

While preparations for the IDF evacuation are being completed, army of southern Lebanon [ASL] soldiers yesterday began to station themselves on their "new line" in the central sector in Lebanon where, for the first time in the ASL's history, they will find themselves alone in the area, without the direct and immediate support of the IDF.

In Sidon itself, there is still a small ASL force left and it is slated to remain there until the "last moment" when it will leave along with IDF soldiers on 18 February.

The IDF anticipates that following the completion of the first phase of the withdrawal in the Sidon and Al-Zahrani areas, the effects of the evacuation will be examined in the area, and immediately afterward the government will convene to decide on the final date for implementing the second phase of the evacuation. "When we receive the final date, everything will begin to move faster, with no less enthusiasm in the eastern sector than in the western, despite the topographical difficulties and the different weather conditions," officers in the north said.

The IDF's interim line is a temporary line based on the mobility of forces which will deploy in temporary positions overlooking road intersections. The day-to-day security activity will include foot and motorized patrols.

When the first stage of the evacuation of the Sidon area is complete, hostile Shi'ite villages such as Al-Sarafand, Al-Saksakiyah, and ('Adaliyah) will remain outside the IDF-controlled zone. However, many hostile Shi'ite villages will still remain in the areas where the IDF will redeploy. The IDF will be faced with a new situation in which it will have to confront hostile elements both in the north and in the south, while relying on a temporary line which lacks the topographical conditions necessary to prevent infiltrations from the north. This situation may expose our forces to more terrorist acts than in the past.

A senior officer in Lebanon says that the possibility of the Shi'ites and the Palestinian terrorists moving southward will be better than in the past, since there are many routes on the new line which can hardly be totally sealed off. The IDF will try to prevent infiltrations by erecting roadblocks at intersections, conducting foot patrols, and acting against centers of hostility beyond the redeployment line.

ASL Redeployment Around Jazzin To Be Completed

TA141458 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1446 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The ASL soldiers will complete their redeployment around Jazzin within the next few days. This was reported today by the commander of the ASL unit which has moved from Sidon to the new deployment area. For the moment, only a few ASL soldiers have left Sidon.

Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that the ASL redeployment will keep it in a primarily Christian area, and it will be responsible for the passage of civilians from northern Lebanon to the south, and vice versa.

Budget Laws To Be Changed in Return for U.S. Aid

TA141350 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 14 Feb 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by Shlomo Ma'oz and 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpts] Israel has made a commitment to the United States to effect changes in the basic budget law for 1985, in addition to the planned budget cut, and in return the United States will soon announce the granting of a special emergency fund of $500 to $800 million. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said this in a meeting he held with U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis yesterday.

In contrast, Peres rejected the U.S. demand for a large devaluation of the shekel, and he announced this officially on television. Senior economists in Jerusalem justified the government's approach to the devaluation issue, saying this move was intended to erode salaries, but in actual fact salaries have already been eroded by tens of percent in recent months and there is no room for additional erosion, especially because in our economy, with the almost complete linkage system, a large devaluation might accelerate the inflation.

It is possible that prior to the finance minister's departure for the United States, toward the end of the month, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres will also leave for Washington. It has been learned that Peres has been invited to an important event of U.S. West Coast Jewry, and he will take advantage of this opportunity to meet with the U.S. Administration leaders on the issue of an increased grant.

According to the basic budget law for 1985, disciplinary penalties will be imposed on government officials or officials working for bodies which receive allocations from the government, if they deviate from their part of the budget. The penalties will be imposed on officials and civil servants up to the rank of director general. Israel is thus copying the U.S. sytem, whereby fines are imposed on those who deviate from the budget; it is even possible to attach the property of the budget offenders.

Another amendment to the budget law, demanded by the United States, prohibits the government from printing money. If the government wants to increase its budget, it will be able to do so only by raising funds in Israel to cover its expenses (this usually leads to an increase in interest rates), or by raising foreign currency abroad and converting it to Israeli shekels for budget purposes.

Government officials said that due to the inflation in Israel, the significance of these laws is relatively limited. Since the budget is stated in shekels which lose of their value daily, it is difficult to examine relatively small deviations from the budget, and it is also possible "to play throughout" the year with the level of government expenses, without raising funds, by adding together the shekels of one month from the beginning of the year to another month from the middle of the year.

In real terms, there is no significance to the adding up of shekels of different dates in an inflationary economy, with a projected inflation of hundreds of percent (up to 300 percent on the average for 1985, according to assessments).

Moda'i To Request $2 Billion Supplementary Budget

TA140638 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i is to seek Cabinet approval for a $2 billion supplementary budget for the current financial year. A Voice of Israel reporter says more than $700 million will come from money printed by the government.

Agreement Reached on Defense Budget Cut

TA140540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The differences over the cuts in the defense budget has been resolved. Our correspondent on economic affairs has learned that the prime minister, the defense minister, and the finance minister yesterday decided that the defense budget will amount to $4 billion, as decided by the Cabinet. However, after U.S. aid is received, an addition of $400 million to the budget will be sympathetically considered. The treasury's demand that the cut to the defense budget be expressed in shekels was not adopted. It has also been decided that the budget does not include the costs of the IDF stay in Lebanon and the withdrawal from southern Lebanon, and this will be discussed only after the Defense Ministry submits a detailed estimate.

Our correspondent stresses that the decision on the cuts satisfies all sides, as the treasury can point to a genuine budget cut while the Defense Ministry believes it may receive more money during the course of the year. However, our correspondent says that not all state budget cuts have been settled; the cuts in the education and health ministries have not yet been concluded. The budget law will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval on 17 February, but the Knesset will not be able to approve it before the end of the month.

Further on Legislation, Validity of Travel Tax

TA131035 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] The Knesset Finance Committee approved an increase in the travel tax and the imposition of a 20 percent tax on travel tickets. Beginning next Sunday [17 February] the travel tax will be 110,000 shekels. Our correspondent Gadi Sukenik reports that travelers to Egypt will pay only a third of the tax, while travelers to the Sinai will be exempt. The next updating of the travel tax will be on 17 March. The issue of the tax on tickets was returned to the Knesset plenum for second and third readings, and will take effect 24 hours after it is approved. Reference is to measures which will be in effect until October.

New Restrictions on Mecca Pilgrimage Noted

TA141355 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Report by Elihu Ben-On]

[Text] The Interior Ministry has announced that registration for the pilgrimage to Mecca has opened for Muslim citizens and residents of Israel. This does not apply to Arabs living in the territories or in East Jerusalem. It appears that this year there are some limitations. The most striking limitation is that for the first time, people under 35 years of age will not be permitted to register. Mr Yehoshu'a Kahana, director of the Population Administration in the Interior Ministry, said that this was for security reasons, but refused to say on what grounds. He also explained that in Egypt many more pilgrims travel to Mecca, but young people are also not allowed to join the pilgrimage for security reasons. The other limitation is that people are not allowed to go to Mecca for a second time, one time is enough. For this, too, the reason is not sufficiently clear.

On the other hand, there is an improvement in the administrative aspects — registration has started earlier than usual; people can register in all Interior Ministry offices in Israel; registration will last for 6 weeks; and collection of taxes and levies will be done at one and the same time. All these measures are being taken to make things easier and to avoid a situation in which the pilgrims pay the thousands of dollars and dinars to the special bus company in advance, but later do not obtain a permit to go and all their money goes down the drain. This time registration is starting earlier and permits are being given earlier as well, so that everyone can leave on time. Reference is to approximately 2,000 people. We should recall that last year approximately 2,000 Israeli Muslim residents left for Mecca and only 35 were refused a permit. To sum up, Muslim youths under 35 will not be allowed to go, and those that have already been to Mecca once before will stay with us this summer.

Sao Tome Hosts Portuguese-Speaking Nations Summit

Summit Opens

AB142050 Dakar PANA in English 1732 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Sao Tome, 14 Feb (AIM/PANA) — The fifth summit of the heads of state of the five African countries that fought against Portuguese colonialism (Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe) opened in Sao Tome this morning.

The president of the host country, Manuel Pinto da Costa, made an opening statement, in which he refered to the common history of struggle that united the five countries. Although "positive steps" had been taken, said Pinto da Costa, the level of cooperation between the five had not yet reached the level desired. Enemies, domestic and foreign, were the principal cause of this, he argued, because "peace is a necessary condition for the consolidation and expansion of our cooperation." He stressed the common positions taken by the five towards major international questions and praised the role played by Cape Verdean President Aristides Pereira in the search for peace in southern Africa. President Pereira has been charged with coordinating the diplomatic efforts of the five countries, particularly with regard to southern Africa.

The president of Guinea-Bissau, Joao Bernardo "Nino" Vieira, as outgoing coordinator of the five, said that there had been "no significant changes on the international scene" since the last extraordinary summit of the five held in Maputo in April last year. He lamented "the slow way in which events have moved in southern Africa, much to the detriment of Angola and Mozambique."

President Pereira announced that during the summit four multilateral agreements are due to be signed.

After a brief speech by Aristides Pereira, thanking the host country for its work in preparing the summit, the opening session closed. The presidents are now continuing their deliberations behind closed doors.

Further on Opening Speeches

MB141632 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The fifth summit meeting of the heads of state of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe began in Sao Tome this morning as scheduled. The opening address was made by Manuel Pinto da Costa, in his capacity as new coordinator and chairman of the host country.

The Sao Tomean head of state referred to the common struggle of the five member-countries and solidarity, which dates back to the days of the struggle for liberation, which has now reached a level of cooperation. Manuel Pinto da Costa said that positive steps have been taken toward cooperation among the five, though the desired goals have not yet been achieved. The president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe said that domestic and external enemies are the main cause of this situation, in that peace is necessary for the strengthening and broadening of cooperation among the five countries.

Afterward, Joao Bernardo Vieira, head of state of Guinea-Bissau, delivered his speech in his capacity as chairman of the outgoing coordinating country. He said that no meaningful changes have taken place in the international arena since the evaluations made at the Bissau and Maputo meetings. The president of Guinea-Bissau referred to the preparation of a document on various areas of cooperation among the five countries. Joao Bernardo Vieira singled out foreign trade as one of the most difficult fields in which to implement cooperation. The Guinean head of state said that positive results were attained at the seminar on administration held in Sao Tome. In his speech, Joao Bernardo Vieira said that the results of the preparatory ministerial meeting of this summit indicate the excellent conditions that have been created by Sao Tome for the success of the summit, which began today.

Machel Holds Bilateral Talks

MB150648 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] President Samora Machel held a long meeting with his Cape Verde counterpart, Aristides Pereira, in Sao Tome the day before yesterday. The talks centered on violations of the Nkomati Accord by South Africa. A spokesman for the Mozambican president said that the meeting between the two statesmen lasted approximately 3 hours and centered on imperialism's conspiracy against Mozambique in the context of South Africa's failure to observe the Nkomati Accord.

President Samora Machel held a similar meeting with the Angolan head of state, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in Sao Tome yesterday. They discussed issues related to the Nkomati Accord and the Lusaka compromise. The two presidents exchanged views on South Africa's violations of the Nkomati and Lusaka agreements.

It should be recalled that, under the Lusaka compromise, South Africa should already have evacuated its troops currently occupying a portion of Angolan territory.

Maghreb Countries Agree To Hold Summit

AU151032 Paris AFP in English 1022 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, Feb 15 (AFP) — Leaders of the five Maghreb countries of North Africa have agreed to hold a summit meeting at the end of March, a well-informed source said here today. Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba is to host the meeting here sometime between March 20 and 31, the source said.

The other heads of state expected to attend are King Hassan II of Morocco, Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and Mauritanian President Maayouia Sid Ahmed Ould Taya.

The main item on the summit agenda will be the independence war in Western Sahara, where Morocco is fighting guerrillas of the Algerian-backed Polisario Front.

Algeria, Tunisia and Mauritania are linked by a cooperation treaty, while Libya and Morocco signed a "treaty of union" last August.

The past few weeks have seen a flurry of diplomatic activity in the Maghreb as Tunisian officials travelled around the other North African capitals trying to obtain a consensus about the summit.

SUDAN

Numayri Returns From Meeting With Egypt's Mubarak

EA141717 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpts] President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri returned to Khartoum at 1615 today from Aswan following a brief visit to the area, during which he held talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on Arab and African issues within the framework of the continuing consultation and coordination between the two presidents on those issues.

Presidents Numayri and Mubarak held a news conference at Aswan airport on the results of their talks.

President Issues Decree on Expatriates' Interests

JN141751 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, Jumada Awal 24, Feb 14 (SUNA) — President of the Republic Ja'far Numayri today decreed the formation of an apparatus that will look after the interests of Sudanese expatriates under his direct supervision.

TUNISIA

U.S. Official Received by Defense Minister

LD132037 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Slaheddine Baly, minister of national defense, met this morning with Dr David Zweifel, ambassador and director of North African political affairs at the U.S. State Department. They discussed bilateral relations and their development in several fields, especially military cooperation. The situation in the Arab Maghreb was also discussed.

ETHIOPIA

Development Loan Agreements Signed With USSR

EA150351 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] An agreement providing for a 60 million birr loan to be used in developing irrigation was signed today between revolutionary Ethiopia and the USSR. It was signed at a ceremony held at the office of the National Central Planning Committee [CPNC] by Comrade Aklilu Afework, director of the CPNC production sector with the rank of commissioner, on behalf of Ethiopia, and by Comrade Fedorov, USSR embassy economic affairs adviser USSR in revolutionary Ethiopia. A further agreement providing for a loan of 180 million birr to be used in the country in planned development projects was signed on the same occasion within the framework of existing economic relations between revolutionary Ethiopia and the USSR. The occasion was attended by Comrade Kesela Mulate, deputy minister of external trade; Comrade Konstantin Fomichenko, Soviet ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia; heads of various CPNC departments; and members of the Soviet Embassy.

SOMALIA

Mogadishu: Ethiopian Admits Occupying Districts

EA141338 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] A spokesman for the SDR [Somali Democratic Republic] Ministry of Foreign Affairs today commented on the Ethiopian regime's admission of occupying the Balamballe and Galdogob areas of the SDR. The spokesman for the SDR Ministry of Foreign Affairs disclosed that Ethiopian forces have been occupying the Galdogob and Balamballe Districts since July 1982 despite repeated denials by that regime of such occupation.

The spokesman further added that the foreign minister of the Ethiopian regime, Goshe Wolde, admitted in an interview with the BBC correspondent, Michael Wooldridge, on 11 February, that his country's forces captured Galdogob and Balamballe.

Goshe Wolde's admission is solid evidence of that regime's expansionist policy which is a prelude to more Ethiopian air raids, the spokesman said.

The statement further added that while the Ethiopian regime continued to pursue that policy, the SDR Government has been saying on many occasions that the problem of the Horn of Africa could only be solved through dialogue.

In his latest call, SDR President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre repeated the call at the opening session of the SRSP Central Committee's third congress on 7 February, in which he said that tension in the Horn of Africa should be resolved peacefully by taking into consideration and recognizing the rights of the peoples living under Abyssinian colonialism.

The SDR Government once again makes clear its willingness to start talks regarding the differences existing between Somalia and Ethiopia on the condition that Ethiopia withdraws its forces from the Districts of Galdogob and Balamballe and stops its provocative attacks against the SDR.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

UNHCR Says Chadian Forces Attack Refugee Camps

AB141230 Paris AFP in French 1154 GMT 14 Feb 85

[By Jean-Eudes Barbier]

[Text] Bangui, Feb 14 (AFP) — Chadian Government troops have been making attacks into the neighboring Central African Republic on camps of refugees who have fled fighting in southern Chad, the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] said here today.

The Chadian soldiers burned villages and captured several refugees to take them back to Chad, the UNHCR said. The Central African Government had made no known protest about repeated incursions of this nature. The attacks were stepped up at the end of January, concentrating on the border area between Moyenne-Sido and Chari, the UNHCR said. Chadian refugees had now deserted the area.

The UNHCR said the Ndjamena regime of Hissein Habre had tried to persuade refugees that the situation was now "normal" in the south. Political and military officials from Ndjamena had secretly crossed the border last January 10 to talk to refugees, and the Chadian ambassador in Bangui, Mouly Said, had carried out a similar mission between January 28 and 31.

A reliable source said that representatives of the refugees had laid down conditions for their return, including the withdrawal from southern areas of troops units [as received] responsible for exactions against local civilians. The refugees also wanted the dismissal of the subprefect of Maro, south of Sahr, who is alleged to have "covered up" numerous atrocities against civilians, and the start of a dialogue between southern rebels and Ndjamena. The source said that President Habre had yet to reply to the demands.

An authoritative source here said that the situation in southern Chad was now calm, in spite of "sporadic provocations", and a number of rebel leaders were expected to go over to the Chadian Government "in the next few days.

The source added that the Central African authorities had broken up "a logistic support network" for the rebels in Bangui some weeks ago. Seven men, described as "pro-Libyan agents," were said to have been the "backbone" of the network, in close liaison with the Libyan Embassy here. The seven had been deported to neighboring Congo in mid-January, the source said.

Referring to the Chadian attacks, the source said it was impossible for the Central African Government to control the hundreds of kilometers of border because of the lack of men and materiel. Only 200 troops could be dispatched to the border town of Markounda when it was attacked from Chad by a mixed force of Chadian and Central African rebels last November, the source noted.

According to UNHCR figures, between 25,000 and 30,000 Chadian refugees are in Central Africa. All but 10,000 are concentrated around Moyenne-Sido, the rest being further west around Maitioukouou. The UNHCR is now preparing to transfer them to prepared camps 150 km south of the border in March in an operation which is costing $260,000. But an authoritative source predicted that many refugees would prefer to return home rather than settle inside Central Africa.

Total UNHCR aid to the Chadian refugees stands at $4 million, of which 800,000 is for food distribution.

High Commission for State Enterprises Dissolved

AB141225 Bangui Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] General Andre Kolingba, chairman of the Military Committee for National Recovery [CMRN], yesterday issued three decrees. Article 1 of the first decree reads: Decree No 81-812 of 19 June 1981 relating to the creation of a high commission at the Presidency of the CMRN in charge of the development and organization of state enterprises and joint ventures is repealed. This decree, which takes effect on the date it is signed, will be registered and published in the *OFFICIAL GAZETTE* and executed as a state law. [passage indistinct]

CONGO

CPSU Delegation Leaves for Moscow 14 Feb

AB141615 Brazzaville Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The CPSU delegation, which came to attend the fifth PCT [Congolese Labor Party]-CPSU scientific colloquium held in Brazzaville from 7 to 13 February, returned to Moscow this morning. Before their departure, the members of the Soviet delegation were respectively received by Comrade Camille Bongou, member of the Political Bureau and permanent secretary of the Central Committee in charge of organization; Pierre Nze, member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the Central Committee in charge of external relations; and by Celestin Goma-Foutou, secretary of the Central Committee in charge of ideology and political training.

GABON

Bongo Receives Message From Angola's Dos Santos

MB150618 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the Republic, has sent a message to Gabonese President Omar Bongo on relations between the two countries. The message was handed over by Dombele Bernardo, the Angolan ambassador accredited to Gabon, during an audience given by President Omar Bongo in Libreville last Tuesday. On the occasion, President Omar Bongo reiterated his support for the letter sent by President Eduardo dos Santos to Dr Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general. This letter contained a proposal for negotiations between Angola and South Africa with regard to Namibia's independence. The Gabonese head of state also noted the nonaligned countries ministerial conference to be held in September 1985 in Luanda, and expressed the conviction that it may strengthen unity within the movement and the support for southern African countries struggling for peace against Pretoria's regime.

ZAIRE

Former Prime Minister To Launch Publication

AB131135 Paris AFP in English 0921 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Brussels, Feb 13 (AFP) — Former Zairian Prime Minister N'guza Karl-I-Bond Tuesday announced the launching here of an opposition newsletter *LE ZAIRE DE DEMAIN (ZAIRE OF TOMORROW)* aimed at ending one-party rule in Zaire.

Mr Karl-I-Bond, who was addressing the Belgian Association of Democratic Lawyers, the single-party system headed by Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko and urged a reform of structures in the country to allow at least two political currents to exist. [sentence as received]

Mr Karl-I-Bond, who lives in exile in Belgium, is one of the main opponents of Marshal Mobutu's government. In his speech yesterday, the oppositional leader charged that civil, economic, political and judicial rights in Zaire were being violated by the government.

BURKINA

Security Meeting With Niger Concludes 14 Feb

Communique Issued

AB142200 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpts] The informal meeting between the Burkinabe minister of interior and security and the minister delegate for security of Niger, which began yesterday, 13 February, at the quartermaster's headquarters in Ouagadougou, ended this morning. The closing ceremony was presided over by Comrade Nongma Ernest Ouedraogo, minister of interior and security and leader of the Burkinabe delegation. After 2 days of deliberations, the two delegations issued a final communique and made recommendations. First, here is the final communique read by Permanent Secretary General of the National Borders Commission of Niger, Apsi Hamani:

A meeting took place in Ouagadougou from 12 [as heard] to 14 February 1985 between the Niger minister delegate for interior and the Burkinabe minister of interior and security.

After the addresses of the two ministers, the delegations examined the following points:

First, family promotion; second, trade, transportation, and customs; third, health; fourth, stock breeding and agriculture; fifth, external relations; and sixth, territorial administration and economic development.

On the first topic, namely family promotion, the members of the Bukinabe delegation deplored the repatriation of some Burkinabe citizens by the Niger authorities under difficult conditions. The Niger side made some clarifications on this issue, stating that the expulsion and repatriation measures concerned only foreigners residing illegally in Niger; however, the Niger side gave the assurance that it would do everything possible to safeguard the properties of those repatriated or expelled. In any case, all emigrants are requested to be in possession of identity cards or the necessary papers.

Second, trade, transportation, and customs: The problems posed are essentially those concerning transportation and the worries of policemen and customs officers. On the whole, the two sides agreed that transit is governed by the ECOWAS convention, to which Burkina and Niger are signatories. Specifically, the two sides suggested the elaboration of a draft agreement concerning livestock transit. The Niger delegation hopes that Burkina Faso will facilitate the transit terms for grains passing through its territory to Niger in view of the current difficult food situation in that country. Furthermore, the Niger delegation has asked the Burkinabe authorities to release the supply of corn and other foodstuffs currently being held at Bitou. After discussing the problem and in view of the importance attached to it, the two heads of delegation agreed to examine it at their level.

Concerning the field of transportation, the sides agreed to take measures to settle the problem within the framework of the 1966 agreement. On the petty disturbances by the police and customs officials, to which citizens of both states fall victim, the two delegations recommended that transport owners be informed of the need to comply with the rules in force in each state. In the same way, they were requested to be more vigilant about the activities of the law enforcement agencies.

Third, health: In the field of health, the two delegations hope to strengthen all the areas of cooperation in sanitation, notably exchange of experiences, scientific cooperation, and recognition of the vaccination certificates issued by the competent services of the two states.

Fourth, agriculture and stockbreeding: In order to avoid conflicts between stockbreeders and farmers, the Burkinabe delegation suggested that transhumance must be delayed as long as possible in order to enable the farmers to complete their harvests. Additionally, it has been requested that those who practice transhumance possess all the necessary papers, especially vaccination certificates. Finally, for the sake of ecological balance, it was recommended that those concerned should be informed of the need to respect the law on flora protection.

Fifth, external relations: The problems raised on this topic were discussed within the framework of family promotion and territorial administration.

Sixth, territorial administration and security and economic development: On this issue, the two delegations mentioned several incidents that have occurred along the border, most of which, fortunately enough, were settled by the administrative authorities at the border.

After a long discussion, the participants agreed on the need to strengthen the grand joint Burkinabe-Niger Joint Cooperation Commission in order to strengthen the economic, social, and cultural cooperation between the two countries and in order to establish periodic meetings at all levels so as to find appropriate solutions to urgent problems. It was also recommended that the border of the two countries' territories be demarcated based on the terms of the draft agreement of 23 June 1964. Apart from the urgent problems discussed, the two delegations agreed that the improvement of the living conditions of their respective peoples depends mainly on the settlement of the fundamental problems of desert encroachment, agriculture, industry, and commerce in order to attain the final objective of an integrated economic development of the two countries.

The Niger minister delegate for interior thanked the people and Government of Burkina Faso for the especially warm and authentically African welcome accorded the members of his delegation as well as himself. He entreated the minister of interior and security to kindly transmit to His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and president of Burkina Faso, fraternal greetings from His Excellency Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger. He took this opportunity to invite his Burkinabe counterpart to pay a working visit to Niger. This invitation was accepted.

Issued in Ouagadougou, on 14 February 1985.

[signed] For Niger: Ahmadou Fiti Maiga, Minister Delegate for the Interior

[signed] For Burkina: Comrade Nongma Ernest Ouedraogo, Minister of Interior and Security

Meeting Recommendations
AB141720 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Recommendations made at conclusion of "informal" meeting between Burkina minister of interior and security and Niger minister delegate for security in Ouagadougou from 13-14 February; read by permanent secretary general of Niger border commission, Apsi Hamani — live or recorded]

[Text] The delegation of the Republic of Niger and the delegation of Burkina, considering the indissoluble historical ties of brotherliness and good neighborliness existing between the two people, considering their common desire to strengthen solidarity and understanding between their people and in their desire to intensify their political, economic, social, and cultural cooperation, recommend:

First: periodic meetings in the following manner: once a year between ministers of the interior; once every 6 months between Niger prefects and Burkina high commissioners; once every 3 months between Niger subprefects and Burkina prefects.

Second recommendation: the drawing up as soon as possible of an agreement for the transportation of livestock and goods between the two countries in the framework of the [name indistinct] convention.

Third recommendation: the setting up of a joint commission in charge of the development of the borders between the two states.

Finally, fourth recommendation: the revitalization of the Niger-Burkina Joint High Cooperation Commission for the implementation of our common objectives.

Joint Commission Meeting With Congo Opens 14 Feb
AB142130 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The grand Burkina-Congo Joint Commission began this morning at the national authority for the exploitation of animal resources. The meeting, which constitutes a model of South-South cooperation, has as its slogan friendship and active solidarity. That is why the ministers of external relations and cooperation of the two countries, who are leading their delegations, expressed their happiness over this meeting, which responds to the wishes of Presidents Denis Sassou-Nguesso and Thomas Sankara during the visit of the Burkinabe president in June 1984 to Pointe Noire.

Comrade Antoine Ndinga-Oba of Congo took the opportunity to hail the development efforts of the Burkinabe people under the leadership of the National Council of the Revolution. He appreciated the anti-imperialist position adopted by Burkina and the Congo on the international scene and denounced the trade imbalance between the North and the South. Comrade Ndinga-Oba hoped that the deliberations of this first session would consolidate the basis for the cooperation between our two countries.

GHANA

Transport Secretary Appointment Confirmed
AB150945 Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The appointment of Mr Kwame Peprah as PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] secretary for transport and communications has been confirmed by the government.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny Receives Letter From Sankara
AB142121 Paris AFP in French 1758 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Abidjan, 14 Feb (AFP) — President Thomas Sankara of Burkina Faso has sent his "very warm and sincere thanks" to the Ivorian head of state, Felix Houphouet-Boigny, in a message following his visit to the Ivory Coast where he just attended the Entente Council summit, it was officially announced today in Abidjan.

President Sankara expressed happiness over his "pleasant stay" in "the imposing political capital" of the Ivory Coast and over the "African and highly warm" reception accorded him.

"I was able to appreciate once more the friendship that exists between our peoples and our governments," he continued and the "prospects that consultations between African leaders offer us, and which enable us to transcend the differences and to work only in the interest of our peoples."

LIBERIA

Ministry Says Ban on Sawyer Does Not Apply to LPP
AB141105 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The Information Ministry says the statement from the Interim National Assembly [INA] banning Dr Amos Sawyer from participating in politics until he submits to an audit does not apply to the Liberian People's Party [LPP]. In a statement released yesterday, the Information Ministry said INA's statement in no way alludes or infers that the ban also applies to the LPP of which Dr Sawyer is organizing chairman.

The Information Ministry's statement said, as a consequence, the rumormongers and those bent on the creation of disharmony in the society should refrain from (?imparting) to the statement lies and gossip, which are in essence completely foreign to its actual meaning.

NIGER

Congolese Envoy on Talks With Kountche, Chad

AB141035 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Upon his return from Yamoussoukro, the chairman of the Supreme Military Council this afternoon granted two audiences. First to be received by the head of state was the Congolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Antoine Ndinga-Oba. The Congolese foreign minister told the Voix du Sahel he was bearer of a message from President Sassou-Nguesso to President Kountche, pointing out that he and the head of state also discussed economic and political issues:

[Begin recording] [Ndinga-Oba] I am bearer of a message from President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to his brother and friend, President Seyni Kountche. Whenever a foreign minister meets with a president, it is always an opportunity to review issues between the two countries and matters affecting our continent, which are now facing political and economic problems. Concerning economic problems, you are fully aware that Africa is currently facing several natural disasters and for this reason African leaders and people must show more solidarity among themselves. With political determination and a sense of organization — which our leaders and our people do not lack — I hope we will be able to face these problems threatening the survival and the very existence of our people.

On political issues, we discussed, among other matters, the Chadian problem. You are a neighbor of Chad with which you share a common border. As you know very well, President Seyni Kountche as well as President Sassou-Nguesso are very preoccupied with this question. Somewhere in Africa, there is a malaise, there are brothers fighting among themselves. They do not enjoy the kind of happiness they want, because there is war in the country. Other Africans cannot stand by and watch. Here also, there is a need for solidarity in the search for solutions that will help these African brothers live in peace. I noted that President Seyni Kountche shares similar views with President Sassou-Nguesso. With the goodwill of the Chadians themselves, thanks to the initiatives of the Chadians themselves and with the assistance of other nations like Niger, Congo, and so on, Chad will recover its peace. This will be in the interest of Africa itself.

We also discussed South Africa, which is a thorn in the flesh of the continent because of the apartheid there. There are also the conflicting and difficult relations that threaten the Frontline States. We also discussed the Namibian problem. You know much about it. It was necessary for me to discuss all these problems with President Kountche, who offered some constructive suggestions, and I take the opportunity to thank him for all the advice and suggestions, which contribute to the search for solutions to African problems.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, concerning the Chadian problem, is your country intending to organize a second round-table conference on national reconciliation in Chad?

[Ndinga-Oba] Of course, we would like to have a second round-table, but on what conditions? The first necessary condition is the goodwill, the determination of the Chadians themselves to move a step forward. It depends on the willingness of the Chadians themselves to meet and together to see to what extent they can proceed in the building of their country. In such situations, imposed solutions are not lasting and just. So we are prepared for a second conference, even as of today, but the Chadians themselves must make it possible for us to host it by agreeing to meet and to make concessions to build their country. [end recording]

TOGO

FRG Defense Ministry Delegation Arrives in Lome

AB131144 Lome Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 13 Feb 85

[Text] Some German friends have been in our country since yesterday. Mr Peter-Kurt Wuerzbach, parliamentary secretary of state at the FRG Defense Ministry, yesterday arrived in Lome at the head of a 10-man West German delegation. The delegation was received by Barry Moussa Barque, member of the Political Bureau and minister of public works, mines, post and telecommunications, who was accompanied by the FRG ambassador to Togo, His Excellency Peter Scholz, and Colonel Ameyi, second in command of the Togolese Armed Forces.

Meets With Eyadema

AB141730 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Excerpts] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic, received in audience this morning a West German delegation headed by Peter-Kurt Wuerzbach, parliamentary secretary of state at the FRG Defense Ministry. The FRG ambassador to Togo, Peter Scholz, and his first secretary, Wilhelm Strutger, formed part of the delegation. Their discussions centered on the friendly ties between the Togolese and German peoples, these traditional and strong ties which are characterized by contacts not only between the two governments but also the two peoples, as Kurt Wuerzbach pointed out to the press:

[Begin recording] [Wuerzbach in German followed by French translation] Our discussions centered mainly on the friendly ties between the Togolese and German peoples, ties which are traditional, strong, and characterized by close contacts not only between the two governments but also between the two peoples both in the political and economic sectors. We both shared the view that the most essential thing is to be able to safeguard peace, to strengthen the solidarity between our two countries, and to ensure the application and respect for human rights, that is, the fundamental right which enables each individual to stand on his own feet and to be self-sufficient.

[Unidentified reporter] You have been able to visit some of our government installations since your arrival. Which sector most interested you and which area of the economy would you like to assist?

[Wuerzbach] The Republic of Togo, considering its population, is one of the countries that receive the most substantial assistance from us. We are happy to give such assistance to Togo because we have observed that this aid is well received here and it is (?put to good use). Also, our visit has enabled us to see that in spite of the relatively and particularly unfavorable climatic conditions, and in spite of all the problems facing the country, there is no famine in Togo.

Concerning the concrete projects that we just discussed with the head of state, we, at the level of the Federal Ministry of Defense, intend to continue the technical assistance that we give to Togo in the coming years. We have placed ourselves at the disposal of the personnel and equipment services. [end recording]

Present at the audience were Barry Moussa Barque, member of the Political Bureau and minister of public works, mines, posts, and telecommunications, and Gbegnon Amegboh, member of the Central Committee and minister delegate to the presidency in charge of information. The audience was followed by a luncheon offered by the head of state in honor of his guests.

ANGOLA

Luanda Cites UNITA Attacks Against Civilians

MB142035 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Another 18 people were murdered by UNITA when a group of criminals yesterday approached the headquarters of Cachiombo municipality in Huambo Province. According to *JORNAL DE ANGOLA*, which published a report in today's issue, the victims are mainly elerly citizens who were returning from their farms. Four women and two children were also killed by the UNITA criminals in this additional attack.

On Monday, another crime was perpetrated by UNITA in Botomona village, along the road linking Catete to Dondo. Seven people were killed, six women and a man. Another three people were wounded in the massacre and have already been treated in Luanda. The criminals set three houses on fire and took all the peasants' goods they were able to carry with them into the bush. Before taking flight upon realizing the approach of our national defense and security forces, the murderous gang booby-trapped a number of houses, but the devices were immediately deactivated by the fighters of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola.

It is also worth recalling the criminal attack on the residents of Colomboloca in Bengo Province on 28 January, when over 30 people were killed by UNITA in a most barbarous manner by tearing off their heads or limbs.

MOZAMBIQUE

RSA's Boesak Arrives in Maputo for Visit

MB141205 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, arrived in the capital a short while ago to take part in the activities of the friendship week between Mozambique and South African peoples.

In a statement made at Maputo airport, Allan Boesak said that his visit to Mozambique will serve to even further strengthen relations between the Mozambican and South African peoples.

At Maputo Airport, the distinguished guest was welcomed by Abner Sansao Mutemba, general secretary of the Mozambique Association for Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples, other members of his organization, and religious leaders.

Comments on Mandela

MB141440 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] South African anti-apartheid campaigner Allan Boesak said today that Nelson Mandela did absolutely the right thing by rejecting the South African Government's conditional offer of release from prison. Dr Boesak, who is president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, was speaking at Maputo airport this morning at the start of a 3-day visit to Mozambique.

[Begin Boesak recording] Nelson Mandela did absolutely the right thing. On Saturday, when we had a meeting, we talked about the offer of the South African Government to release Mandela and we have made the point over and over again that in terms of the conditions that they have placed upon him, we believe that it is not so much the ANC or Mandela who has to pledge that he will not use violence. It is the South African Government that must first prove to the people of South Africa that they are willing to renounce violence, that they will no longer employ policies that hurt our people or that discriminate against our people, that they will dismantle apartheid, which is in itself a violent system, and that they are willing to speak to the authentic representatives of our people. Now, if they do that, then it seems to me that they can talk about a possible new beginning in terms of maybe a roundtable discussion with the representatives of our people. But I think that Mandela was absolutely right in saying that as long as apartheid is, exists, in South Africa, as long as the South African government continues with its policies against our people, he cannot accept a conditional freedom through which they hope to make him as ineffective as they possibly can. [end recording]

The Reverend Allan Boesak is in Maputo as a guest of the Mozambican international friendship and solidarity association, members of the Mozambican clergy, and officials of the ANC. Dr Boesak said he hoped his visit would be the basis of a very clear and very strong relationship between the people of Mozambique and the black people in South Africa who are struggling for freedom.

Mongolian Official Arrives for 4-Day Visit

MB141910 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Sonomyn Lubsangombo, candidate of the member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Politburo, began a 4-day official visit to Mozambique this afternoon at the invitation of the Frelimo Party. The visit is aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation and friendship between the two countries, as well as to exchange of views on the international situation.

Talks between the Frelimo Party and the MPRP began this afternoon. The Mozambican delegation was led by Frelimo Party Political Bureau member Joaquim Chissano.

Sonomyn Lubsangombo, who is also deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Mongolia, was received at the airport by Joaquim Chissano and Armando Guebuza, members of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau and the Mozambican Government.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Spokesman Denies Reports of Rift

MB141448 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] A senior SWAPO spokesperson has denied reports of a rift in the organization. There has been speculation that Secretary General Andimba Toivo ja Toivo has either disappeared or has fallen out of favor, but SWAPO's London representative, Peter Manning, has dismissed the claims, as Gwen Lister reports.

[Begin recording] He was reacting to reports in certain South African and Namibian newspapers, alleging that Ja Toivo could not be traced, and that there was tension between him and SWAPO's president, Sam Nujoma. Manning said there were often reasons why a leader's whereabouts could not be disclosed, and he added that those people who alleged that Toivo was in disfavor with Nujoma would look foolish at a later stage. Ja Toivo, he added, was as committed as ever, and there was no question of division in SWAPO ranks. It is possible that Ja Toivo will issue a press statement in the near future, to combat what he called the spread of disinformation, Manning said. [end recording]

SWAPO Leader Says No Encounters With JMC Forces

MB151044 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1029 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 15, SAPA — A captured SWAPO special unit commander, Josef Nikodemus Kalenga, 29, said today that in moving southwards through Angola to SWA/Namibia, his group of insurgents had not encountered any forces of the Angolan-South African joint monitoring commission [JMC].

He told a news conference in Windhoek that SWAPO's armed wing — the People's Liberation Army of Namibia [PLAN] — was aware of the Lusaka accord between South Africa and Angola. PLAN fighters had been told to stay away from positions of the Free Angola People's Liberation Army (FAPLA), which is the regular government defence force.

Mr Kalenga was taken prisoner after being wounded in the foot on his second day in SWA/Namibia after crossing the border from Angola. The rest of his section was wiped out by the territory's security forces.

Mr Kalenga said he had been abducted one night in June 1980, by three SWAPO insurgents from his home in Ovambo. He took part in an infiltration campaign into SWA/Namibia at the beginning of 1983 before being sent to the Soviet Union in June of that year to study economics, philosophy and "scientific communism." He returned to Angola in August last year.

Mr Kalenga said he had been trained as a youth organiser for SWAPO but he could not fulfill his function because of PLAN's "manpower shortage." His latest military mission into SWA/Namibia was to do recruitment for SWAPO in the central Ovambo-speaking region and to commit sabotage.

In reply to a question, he said armed struggle was one of SWAPO's methods, but he did not believe SWAPO would achieve military victory. A solution to the SWA/Namibian conflict would have to come through negotiation, he said.

SOUTH AFRICA

President Reiterates ANC Need To Renounce Violence

MB150856 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0825 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 15, SAPA — The government was willing to talk to the banned African National Congress and "other organisations concerned" if they decided to reject and renounce violence, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today.

"The government is willing to talk to them, as with any other organisation that strives for true peace and development for the peoples of our land," he said at a ceremony in the castle in Cape Town in which the Order of the Star of South Africa, the country's highest military decoration, was awarded to a number of people.

Referring to his January 31 offer in parliament to release the imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela and other long-term political prisoners, providing they forswore violence, the president said those who had not yet served substantial parts of their sentences would receive "credit" if they agreed to the conditions. This would be taken into account, together with other normal relevant factors, by prison authorities when release of prisoners was considered.

Mandela has turned down Mr Botha's offer but four other political prisoners have accepted and will be released soon.

Mr Botha said there were many threats against the country — in the political, economic, cultural, religious and other fields — and the challenges of the future would demand new dedication of the people to loyal service for peace and progress.

"It was in this spirit that I made my offer to Mr Nelson Mandela and other similar prisoners who were involved in crimes against the state and have already served long prison terms. If they forswear the planning, instigation and perpetration of violence, their release will be favourably considered. Those who have not yet served a substantial part of their sentences will receive credit if they forswear violence, and this will be taken into account along with the factors which usually apply when the release of prisoners is considered by the prison authorities."

He added: "I am willing to go even further. I have in the past warned that an ever growing number of people in all communities in South Africa are no longer prepared to tolerate the perpetration of senseless violence. We cannot allow forces of evil to commit murder and wanton destruction in this country. If the ANC and other organisations concerned also decide to reject and renounce violence, the government is willing to talk to them, as with any other organisation that strives for true peace and development for the peoples of our land."

"We should heed the lessons of history and build a safer future on the wisdom of experience. We must not repeat the mistakes that were made elsewhere in Africa," Mr Botha concluded.

Three More ANC Leaders Refuse Freedom Offer

MB150718 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Another three ANC leaders have turned down the state president's offer of a conditional amnesty. The men, all serving life sentences at Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town, are Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, and Andrew Mlangeni.

The rejection is contained in a 6-page memorandum jointly compiled by the three Rivonia trialists and submitted to P.W. Botha. A report in the *RAND DAILY MAIL* says the memorandum has been signed by all Rivonia treason trialists, including Nelson Mandela.

The rejection comes in the wake of Mandela's personal rejection of the offer made public at the weekend. The prisoners emphasized it is up to the government to halt violence, abandon apartheid, unban the ANC, allow exiles and banned people to return, and to allow free political activities.

Yesterday Botha ratified the release of four political prisoners who agreed to his condition to renounce political violence.

Le Grange Promises 'Merciless Action' Against Violence

MB141904 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, says with reference to unrest at black schools that the government is not prepared to negotiate with protagonists of violence. He says that as long as they advocate violence, merciless action will be taken against them.

Mr le Grange says in a statement issued in Cape Town that unrest and violation of the law in some areas are being fanned by organizations and individuals who hope thereby to achieve their own political goals. In the process, they are not hesitating to use the most violent methods, and to use large numbers of children to achieve their aims. He says there have been increasing numbers of cases of intimidation, unrest, illegal acts leading to loss of life, serious bodily injury, and large-scale damage to property.

Mr le Grange says that he is concerned that people in positions of authority in black urban areas, and their property, have become the targets of attacks. Everyone who tries to bring grievances to the attention of the proper authorities through the correct channels is scared off through intimidation and physical violence.

Although the government will take drastic action aagainst those who use violence to achieve their ends, it is prepared to talk to those who foreswear violence and threats.

Board Notes Army Role in Quelling East Rand Unrest

MB141730 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 14 Feb 85 p 2

[Excerpts] A military board of inquiry has found that Army troops took an active part in quelling unrest in an East Rand township last year.

And the SA Defence Force — after repeated statements that soldiers are used in a "supportive" rather than an active role when sent into South Africa's townships with police units — has backed the troops involved and will not take action against them.

The board was set up to inquire into alleged incidents of misconduct by Army soldiers after SADF headquarters disputed parts of a *RAND DAILY MAIL* report on police/Army actions at a funeral in Vosloorus in November last year.

Despite an SADF claim that it had initiated a "full-scale investigation" and had found the *MAIL's* report to contain "a number of factual errors", the board's findings included:

— That soldiers "threw" teargas cannisters to disperse mouners; and

— Three members of the SADF "apprehended a youth on police request".

A Defence Force spokesman said this week that "no action" had been taken against the soldiers who threw the teargas cannisters "because no offence was committed".

"In a situation such as that at Vosloorus at the time, the throwing of teargas cannisters is a recognised method in the application of minimum force," the spokesman said.

The *MAIL* report, published on November 28 last year under the headline "Mourners hurt in clash", said several people were injured when police and men in Army uniform fired rubber bullets and teargas to disperse hundreds of mourners at the funeral. Several people were also chased and beaten.

The SADF "emphatically denied" that Army troops "beat up people" or that they had at any stage fired rubber bullets or teargas into crowds. Soldiers were not issued with weapons of this type, the SADF said.

The SADF also claimed that a photograph of an Army vehicle — published above the report — had been taken at the Vosloorus police station and not at a point near the funeral procession.

The board was constituted in terms of the Defence Act and was under the presidency of Brigadier Ben de Wet Roos, a retired military officer.

Its findings into the incidents at Vosloorus — released last week by the SADF's Director of Public Relations — read:

— "No SADF personnel fired rubber bullets.

— "No SADF personnel fired teargas grenades. The board did, however, find that some SADF members did throw teargas cannisters.

— "There was no evidence of active assault by any member of the SADF on any residents. The board found that on one occasion only, three soldiers apprehended a black youth on police request.

— "The photograph of the vehicle was not taken while it was at the police station, as claimed by the directorate of public relations. The SADF thanks you for bringing this matter to our attention."

Johannesburg on U.S. Human Rights Report
MB150605 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The conclusion of the American State Department's latest review on human rights in this country is that the South African Government continues to discriminate against the black majority. Progress is acknowledged but is overshadowed by the judgment passed on the situation overall. Reference is made to the pass laws, legislation on homelands, separate and unequal education, separate residential areas, and the Mixed Marriages Act.

In fact, changes to a number of these measures are now an urgent priority, not in response to pressures, but because equality of opportunities and privileges has been accepted as a fundamental premise in national politics. South Africans can hardly claim that all people and communities in their midst do now enjoy such equality. It was precisely because they do not that the process of reform — constitutional, social, and economic — has been accelerated in recent years.

Nevertheless, an overriding question about the report's assumptions remains. Can this multiethnic society ever comply with the human rights demands according to the prevailing interpretation?. Expressing citizens' rights in terms of membership of national or other groups is no new concept. It is embodied in the Magna Charta, America's 2-centuries-old Bill of Rights, and the declarations on human rights of the League of Nations.

After the Second World War, however, the emphasis was placed increasingly on rights as an exclusively individual concept. Article I of the UN Charter, although it proclaims the right of self-determination of peoples, has therefore consistently been read in the modern idiom. According to that interpretation, human rights means nothing more than the will of the numerical majority, whatever the consequent fate of minority groups. That this approach can lead to a negation of the rights of members of minorities in abundantly evident. In a multiethnic society, the enjoyment of the individual's rights is of necessity tied to the ability of his group to maintain itself successfully in the political system.

Where a community's rights are denied, as in the case of the Ndebele minority in Zimbabwe, individual rights have little or no content, whatever the apparent guarantees provided by constitution. South Africa's differentiated society — this is accepted by all political parties represented in Parliament — must be recognized in any constitutional dispensation. Ignoring it leaves vulnerable the rights not only of the minority groups, but of their individual members, and human rights critics here and abroad who deliver judgment solely in terms of individualist criteria are guilty of using a yardstick that is dangerously flawed.

Traditional homelands, community orientated education, and relatively homogenous residential areas do not by definition constitute a denial of human rights, provided that opportunities for all are genuinely equal. It is that aspect of the South African situation that has been gravely neglected in the past, and to which sincere and dedicated efforts must be directed in the future.

Foreign Affairs, Manpower Ministers Visit France

For Paris and Johannesburg reportage on the visit to France by a delegation led by Foreign Affairs Minister Roelof F. Botha, which includes Manpower Minister Pieter du Plessis, including Botha's meeting with French External Relations Minister Roland Dumas, see the France section of the 15 February Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Radio Freedom on Crocker Visit to South Africa
MB141958 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English 1800 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The U.S. envoy, Chester Crocker, has wound up 5 days of diplomatic shuttle in South Africa. Throughout his stay in this country, Chester Crocker, commonly known by his admirers as the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, not only paid lip service to the American State Department's so-called abhorence of apartheid in South Africa and its tireless efforts to ensure progress towards the attainment of genuine independence in Namibia, but went on further to hoodwink independent Africa states that his master, Ronald Reagan, was interested in stability and lasting peace in the subcontinent.

Chester Crocker's visit to apartheid South Africa, timed with military precision, coincided, ironically, with the State Department's annual report on human rights violations in the world. As is usual, apartheid South Africa was named by the State Department in this report as one of the three countries in Africa which consistently violated such rights.

Well and good. It is great that the Reagan administration has, as is the case in all its annual reports, once more noted that, but at the same time, we have also noted with deep concern that the Reagan administration has also failed to identify all areas where such rights are brutally violated by the racist regime in Pretoria.

For instance, the U.S. State Department talks about such rights as being violated by the racist Army and police in black African townships, and detention without trial. This, of course, is true, but it is only the tip of the iceberg.

Apartheid, as we know in South Africa, which Ronald Reagan's messenger boy Chester Crocker failed to denounce, since he was dining with it, is the basic root cause of human rights violations in our country, not only police and Army brutality, as we are led to believe. What we have known throughout the past years is that for as long as the apartheid regime and its abhorent policy exists in our country, police and Army brutality will continue unabated, while detention without trial will escalate.

To all those who closely follow events in South Africa, it is a known fact that the Reagan administration, with its policy of so-called constructive engagement with the apartheid regime in South Africa, is, despite condemnation at home and abroad, beefing up the racist war machinery. It is this very same abhorent policy which is arming the racist Army and police, thus enabling them to perpetuate horrible acts of violence against unarmed civilians in black townships.

The racist prisons service in using sophisticated, up-to-date torture and surveillance closed-circuit television to monitor all movements of prisoners and detainees, thanks to the State Department's policy of constructive engagement and its twin sister, quiet diplomacy.

To us, it is no big surprise that Chester Crocker felt at home and confortable with the racist generals for, as the saying goes, birds of the same feather flock together. As with his previous safaris to South Africa, we did not expect Crocker to come up with a miracle in this latest one.

No intellectual, where ever he comes from, will determine our people's destiny. To us, the struggle continues until victory is won.

Briefs

Foreign Affairs Director General — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has announced in Cape Town that the director general of his department, Mr Hans van Dalsen, will be retiring on pension on 31 March. He is to be succeeded by the deputy director general, Mr Ray Killen. Mr Killen has been in service in Australia, the Belgian Congo, Canada, and Britain, among other places, since 1949. He has headed the Department of Foreign Affairs Africa Directorate over the past 11 years. [Text][*Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 14 Feb 85 MB*]

ZIMBABWE

Party Official Predicts ZANU-PF Landslide

MB150556 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] The ZANU-PF secretary for administration and member of the Political Bureau, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, has predicted a landslide victory for the ruling party during the forthcoming general election. Comrade Nyagumbo told ZIANA yesterday that ZANU-PF would do better than in the 1980 election, when it won 57 of the 80 seats in the House of Assembly. He said the party is likely to get at least four seats in Matabeleland South, and three in Matabeleland North. Comrade Nyagumbo, who is also the minister of state for political affairs and provincial development coordination, said he does not believe ZAPU would collect four seats in the Midlands as it did in 1980. In Mashonaland West, he said the ruling party would definitely win the two seats it lost to ZAPU and the United African National Council [UANC] in the last election. Comrade Nyagumbo also said ZANU-PF would win the two seats it lost to the UANC in Mashonaland East. The minister said there is no likelihood of the elections being disrupted by bandits because the government has taken precautions.

New Zealand Establishes Diplomatic Ties

MB150630 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 15 Feb 85

["Text" of joint communique by Zimbabwe and New Zealand establishing diplomatic relations at high commissioner level; date not given]

[Text] The Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Government of New Zealand, guided by the principles enunciated in the United Nations Charter and being desirous to establish relations of friendship and mutually benefitial cooperation on the basis of the principles of equality, noninterference in the internal affairs of other states, respect for independence and national integrity, decided to establish as from 15 February 1985 diplomatic relations between the two countries at high commissioner level.